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THE TIMES

What our schools need most is money: Virginia Makins, page 20

Firemen seek TUC help in bid to end pay curbs

The Fire Brigades Union decided last night to seek the help of the TUC in a concerted attempt to break the 10 per cent pay limit in the public sector. It is also to request money and "other forms of support" from the trade union movement. The move came after the union executive had been told by the Prime Minister that the 10 per cent pay offer made by local authorities would have to be accepted.

Impasse in talks with Prime Minister

By Donald Macintyre

The Fire Brigades Union is to attempt to involve the TUC directly in broadening its dispute into a concerted campaign against the imposition of the 10 per cent pay limit on public sector employees.

The union's executive yesterday decided to seek official support from affiliated unions after its talks with the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street had failed to produce any move towards a settlement.

Mr Terence Parry, general secretary of the FBU, telephoned Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, last night to tell him that the union would be formally requesting an early meeting with the TUC's finance and general purposes committee.

A statement issued by Mr Parry after a five-hour executive meeting reaffirmed that nothing the Prime Minister had said would "form the basis on which to recall the national delegate conference for the purposes of recommending a return to work".

The wording of the statement reflected anger among the executive, after a meeting in which the prime Minister had told them that their strike could not succeed and that, while the Government had no power to enforce the pay limit in the private sector, it was determined to do so in the public services.

The aim of the request to the TUC would appear to be to force it to take a firm stand for the first time on a limited to which the Government is fully committed but which the TUC conference and the general council have never endorsed.

Mr Parry said: "The TUC have not supported the 10 per cent limit. We want them to say it loud and clear and perhaps a bit more." It was not the FBU's job to spearhead any campaign against the 10 per cent limit in the public sector.

He refused to be drawn on what forms of supportive action, other than financial, the union would seek from other unions. But one option that may be considered is the withdrawal of some labour in factories or other premises where the firemen's strike has prevented normal fire cover or statutorily required inspection visits by firemen.

The main object however, appears to be to pass to the whole trade union movement what has so far been the FBU's exclusive burden of defying the government guidelines.

Mr Callaghan apparently angered and surprised several members of the executive with the forcefulness with which he said there was no question of improving the local authorities' 10 per cent pay offer. He gave the union a stern warning that other unions would "build on" any breach in the pay guidelines.

Mr Callaghan said the Government wanted to see "a properly remunerated fire service" with no sense of grievance. But the only item that could possibly be construed as anything like a new move towards the FBU case was a hint that the Government would be prepared to make a forward commitment to implement any future pay formula agreed between the union and local authorities.

"No confrontation": "We are not in confrontation", the Prime Minister assured the Commons yesterday as he gave the briefest of reports on his meeting with the firemen (our Political Editor writes).

To some inquiry on opposition benches, he insisted that the firemen did not think that there was a confrontation; they understood the country's dilemma.

Mr Callaghan then managed to occupy all the political ground available by stating, in the agreeable fashion that his opponents find impossible to puncture, that the country has sympathy for the firemen yet understanding that pay rises given to one group go through the whole system.

Mr Callaghan's earlier statement to the press, as the FBU executive left 10 Downing Street, had been more abrupt. "The present strike cannot succeed", it stated. The Government's desire was to build the long-term future.

Fire incidents and Downing Street statement, page 2
Parliamentary report, *page 12*

Single-figure inflation, a 3.4m growth rate and £2,000m surplus predicted for next year

Strong attack on Government policy by National Institute

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

Real take-home earnings and spending up by 5 per cent, a sharp increase in living standards, coupled with a £2,00m surplus on the balance of payments and single figure inflation at 8.4 per cent, are predicted for Britain by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research today.

In the latest issue of its *Economic Review*, the Institute says the economy will grow in real terms by 3.4 per cent next year after a derisory 0.2 per cent increase in output this year.

Tax cuts of £1,000m in the April Budget are still expected to leave the Government safely within the present estimate agreed with the International Monetary Fund of how much it can borrow. The Institute expects Government borrowing next year to be £8,600m, compared to £7,300m this year.

Although the Institute's forecast is one of its most optimistic for many years, with a rise in unemployment to 1.5 million from 1.4 million this year as the main black spot in 1978, its appraisal of Government policy is highly critical in almost every respect.

It accuses the Government of pursuing a restrictive stance which has "depressed output, inhibited industrial investment and further increased unemployment."

The *Review* is particularly critical of the decision to let the pound float upwards, which it says will harm competitiveness of manufacturing industry and increase imports for very little benefit in terms of lower inflation.

The forecast is based on the assumption that the pound appreciated from its current rate of 63.3 per cent, its level in 1971, to 68.1 per cent of the 1971 level by the end of next year.

This appreciation of the pound is of vital importance to some elements of the forecast, which is significantly different from the forecast published recently by the Treasury.

The Institute predicts a surplus on the current account of £2,083, which is £500m larger than the Treasury estimate, largely because higher prices for our exports and lower prices for imports move the terms of trade in our favour. In the longer run, however, they lead to a worse trade performance.

The Institute also launches a head-on attack on the central role which financial and monetary targets play in formulating government policy.

It says that in the present depressed state of the economy the effects of allowing the money supply to be expanded by inflows of foreign funds "would probably be small and would in any case be beneficial."

In its forecast, the Institute assumes that the Government succeeds in limiting the growth of the money supply to 13 per cent in the current financial year, as it has promised to do and to the same figure in 1978-79.

It expects gross earnings to grow faster than the Government's 10 per cent guidelines, however, with an expected growth of 17 per cent. This figure is slightly higher than the 15 per cent figure which seems to be accepted in private by the Treasury as the most likely increase for the current pay round.

The published Treasury forecast assumes only a 10 per cent growth of earnings, however, which makes it impossible to compare with the forecast of the Institute or of most other forecasters on the majority of issues.

The Institute is very critical of the way in which pay policy is moving, with the lack of any central monitoring body to look at differentials coming in for special criticism.

A coherent policy for incomes is needed to make the expansionary course which the Institute argues is necessary. Much of the growth in output next year comes in the first six months, with a definite tailing off thereafter.

The prescription of more stimulus, a more competitive exchange rate and a tighter incomes policy ties in with the Institute's views of the medium-term options facing the Government, which is criticized for failing to announce a coherent policy for relating its short-term actions to the prospects opened up by North Sea oil.

In a separate article, the Institute says that unless exchange rate policy is managed to preserve the competitiveness of British industry, the balance of payments gain from North Sea oil will be used up with no permanent gain to the economy.

Other Institute reports, page 22

Mr Dayan at an exhibition of ancient Egyptian art in Bonn yesterday.

Mr Dayan reprimands Germans

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Nov 29

West German leaders have been taken aback by sharp public criticism from Mr Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, of recent antisemitic incidents and Bonn's "absurd position" on Middle East questions.

Mr Dayan, here on a three-day official visit, told his hosts at an after-dinner speech last night that with their political and economic weight they should give "bold leadership" to other European countries. They should not let themselves be entangled in "erroneous polocies" for the sake of European solidarity.

"I am not simply here on a courtesy visit", *he said bluntly.*

He further emphasized the importance he clearly attaches to Bonn as a counter-weight in Europe to pro-Arab France by unexpectedly paying a hospital visit to Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the ailing West German Foreign Minister, and discussing the issues with him for half an hour.

Mr Dayan spoke of the "concern of the Israeli people at recent antisemitic events among young people, attempts to rewrite history and the nostalgia for the Hitler era in which indulgence towards Nazi crimes and criminals is recognizable".

His visit to the former Nazi concentration camp at Belsen on Sunday had left a "deep impression on me

Mr Dayan was believed to be referring to incidents at West German officers' colleges, in particular one in which young officers played at "burning Jews" during a drinking session. All those involved have been, or are in the process of *being, discharged.*

He was clearly also thinking of a wave of films, books and magazine articles which hit Germany this summer, some misleading, and a very few actually pro-Nazi. But Mr Dayan is hardly justified in calling it nostalgia for the Hitler era. The interest is prompted mainly by curiosity among young people as to what actually happened.

What Mr Dayan may consider indulgence towards Herr Kappler, the Nazi war criminal who escaped here from Italy, is due simply to the fact that German law forbids the authorities to extradite German citizens.

Mr Dayan said that the international community could make far-reaching contributions to peace in the Middle East by supporting positive elements and opposing those that stood in the way of peace. "Egypt and its allies need your moral and political support and we hope that you will not dissapoint them.

Middle East moves, page 9

Vote for overtime ban costs Swan Hunter £52m order for ships

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Reassignment of Polish shipbuilding orders worth £52m originally destined for the Tyneside shipyards of Swan Hunter is to begin immediately. British Shipbuilders is likely to announce today where some of the orders are to be reallocated.

The reassignment of the contracts to other yards in Britain came after yesterday's surprising rejection of a peace formula by 1,700 outfitting workers employed by the group. Their vote will lead to redundancy notices being served almost immediately to several hundred other workers employed by the state corporation on Tyneside.

The seven ships that were to have been built by Swan Hunter formed part of the £115m shipbuilding deal signed with Poland last week. The vessels, all bulk carriers, would have provided Swan Hunter with much needed work for its 10,000 workers over the next 12 months.

Because of the tight delivery schedules and the heavy penalty clauses involved British Shipbuilders sought written guarantees from workers at all yards where the Polish orders have been allocated, pledging support and cooperation.

The outfitting trades at Swan Hunter have for 13 weeks been operating an unofficial ban on overtime in support of pay parity with other trades. Yesterday they overwhelmingly rejected a recommendation from their shop stewards to lift the ban, provide the guarantees, and allow the claim to be settled through normal negotiating procedures.

Mr David Hanson, chairman of the outfitting trades shop stewards' committee, said after the meeting: "Our members appreciate the position but at the same time they have got a claim in for parity. I think only money is going to talk now. I am a little disappointed but I will carry out the wishes of the members."

British Shipbuilders had extended the original deadline *set for provision of the written* guarantees from midnight last Friday until yesterday's meeting, but executives have been busy during the past few days preparing for a reassignment of the orders.

Yeterday evening Mr John Chalmers, general secretary of the boilermakers society and a part-time member of the state corporation's board, travelled to London, with Mr John Steele, chief executive of Swan Hunter, to review the position with British Shipbuilders. In London a representative said that no further developments were *expected and reaffirmed* the corporation's intention to reallocate the orders.

That is a severe blow to shipbuilding on the Tyne, redundancies are now inevitable, with more to follow as the company's order book is worked out.

Mr John Parker, marketing director for British Shipbuilders, said last night: "This is a grave disappointment but the Corporation has no alternative except to reallocate immediately. This will now be carried out as quickly as possible and it is hoped that the first orders will be placed within 48 hours, subject to the necessary assurances being received from the yards concerned."

Smith's Dock, on the Tees, part of the Swan Hunter group before nationalization, will almost certainly obtain some work. Sunderland Shipbuilders, which has, on the Wear, the most modern under-cover building facility in the world, is also expected to secure a proportion of the displaced orders from the Tyne.

Austin & Pickersgill, also on the Wear, which has failed to secure a single new order this year, will certainly pick up at least one of the bulk carrier orders, while Govan Shipbuilders, on the upper Clyde, which has contracts for 10 ships in the Polish deal, could easily accommodate two of the ships lost by Swan Hunter.

Redundancies loom, page 2
Leading article, page 17
Expensive loss, page 23

UN launches itself into outer space

From Michael Leapman
New York, Nov 29

The United Nations has for years had to combat criticism that its well-meaning efforts at solving the difficulties of this world are often ineffective. Yesterday it widened its horizons to embrace other worlds when the Special Political committee of the General Assembly started a debate on unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

It was the fulfilment of a long-held desire of Mr Eric Gairy, the Prime Minister of Grenada, who has been campaigining for two years for the United Nations to take cognizance of extra-terrestrial intruders. This year he managed to get the assembly to agree that agenda.

Mr Gairy came in person to launch his resolution on its flight path. It urges the United Nations to set up a department to conduct and coordinate research into UFOs and asks that 1978 be declared International year of Unidentified Flying Objects.

During the year, the second international congress on the subject, and on related phenomena, should be held in Grenada (the first was held in Acapulco, Mexico). Moreover, the United Nations and Grenada should issue commemorative stamps for the occasion.

Only about a quarter of the 149 members of the United Nations failed to send representatives to the meeting, *held* in a committee room shaped much like a flying saucer.

Some nations had more than one delegate present and, counting officials, there must have been nearly 200 highly paid international civil servants on hand to grapple with this engrossing problem when, at the customary 40 minutes after the scheduled starting time, the chairman called the meeting to order.

I noticed, though, that several countries, including the United States, had women as delegates. This, in the male-dominated United Nations is a sign of low-level representation. The British delegate was male, but appeared to be in his early twenties—no doubt getting an early grounding in international futility.

Many delegates had taken advantage of the Grenada Government's invitation to prepare themselves for the discussion by attending special screenings of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, a successful film that deals with UFOs. The Grenadans also distributed one of the many paperback books published to satisfy the *American public's current fascination* with the topic.

Mr Gairy began the proceedings by declaring: "One must face the realities of life today and recognize the fact that there are so many things that have continued to baffle mankind."

He soon gave the floor to his United Nations representative, Mr Wellington Friday, who began by singing the praises of his leader in terms which may have been influenced by the fact that Mr Gairy was sitting within chair-pulling distance behind him. The Prime Minister's speeches on UFOs at the United Nations, Mr Friday declared, "will echo down the corridors of history for all time and for all generations to come".

Continued on page 9 col 1

Further rise in interest rates feared

By John Whitmore

There was growing speculation in financial markets last night that interest rates might have to rise still further over the next few days unless the monetary authorities intervene rapidly to calm market nervousness.

Although the Bank of England appeared to be happy enough at the end of last week with the 2 per cent upward correction in its minimum lending rate—up from 5 to 7 per cent—markets have already started to talk in terms of MLR going up to 8, or even 9, per cent.

The main reason for nervousness continues to be concern over the authorities' ability to control the rate of growth in the money supply. Although markets are already well aware that the November money supply figures are unlikely to be good, there is considerable anxiety about the underlying trend in the monetary aggregates beyond that.

This being the case, the market has also been rather puzzled by the fact the authorities have not yet attempted to reactivate sales of gilt-edged stock this week—gilt sales to non-bank investors is the means by which the authorities neutralize the public sector's contribution to monetary growth.

It may be that the authorities have simply been waiting for markets to find an appropriate level after last week's sharp increase in MLR. Or they may feel that the big investing institutions are temporarily short of money.

If the latter, they might feel that any further rise in interest rates would serve no useful purpose and that they should attempt to persuade the markets of this.

Meanwhile most short-term interest rate are exected to rise further this mornin, with inter bank rates from three months to a year up by at *least* a quarter per cent.

Midland raises base rate, page 2
Financial Editor, page 23

'Express' beats union in court

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Mr Victor Matthews, chairman of Beaverbrook Newspapers, predicted a healthier national newspaper industry through strong management after a court victory over the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat).

Speaking to me after the Court of Appeal had ruled that Sogat had no right to curtail production of extra copies of the *Daily Express* while the *Daily Mirror* is in dispute with its London-based journalists, he referred to the end of "union power" in Fleet Street.

"I hope it will be better for the workers and for the managers", he said. "I believe that the workers respond to strong management and I think that a lot of the troubles in Fleet Street are due to weak management.

"Once Fleet Street starts to get strong management it will be a healthier place. If this action helps the cause, and I am sure it does, I am more than delighted."

He argued that the issue was relevant to industry generally, not just to Fleet Street. "If the Court of Appeal had upheld Bill Keys's [general secretary of Sogat] action, then at any time a trade union official could stop or reduce operations in whatever field he is operating."

Taking Ford as an example, Mr Matthews said: "If they are on strike do you stop British Leyland producing more because they are going to get a larger share of the market? The argument is just the same." It applied to shoes and any other commodity produced for public consumption.

The fundamental point at stake was the right to manage. "Once you take that away from management, you might as well give up", he added. "We must have the right to take our own decisions on what production we have the demand for, and that applies to everything you can think of. It is a fundamental commercial view."

The *Daily Express* increased production last night to take advantage of the gap in the popular market left by the *Daily Mirror's* failure to publish in London. The *Daily Mirror*

Continued on page 2, col 4

Mozambique raid holds up Rhodesia negotiations

Salisbury, Nov 29.—Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the most important of the black leaders with whom Mr Ian Smith hopes to negotiate a majority rule settlement, today accused the Rhodesian forces of massacring refugees in their assault on Mozambique.

He declared a week of national mourning for victims

His publicity secretary, Mr D. C. Mukome, said the bishop would not take part in any negotiations with government officials until after the mourning was over. However, the constitutional conference called by Mr Smith would still be held in the future.

The military command said yesterday that more than 1,200 nationalist guerrillas were killed in raids on two camps in Mozambique.

Bishop Muzorewa said in a statement: "The people massacred in Mozambique are for the most part refugees. They are for the most part men, women and children who fled from the land of their birth to seek asylum."

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said the Rhodesian attack "underlines the need for an internationally acceptable settlement".

International anti-bribery code agreed

Business leaders from 54 countries meeting in Paris adopted a tough code of practice to fight bribery and corruption in business and public life. The code, drawn up by a commission headed by Lord Shawcross, and approved by the International Chamber of Commerce, includes recommendations to Government to draw up anti-bribery legislation where it does not already exist, a voluntary set of rules for ethical practices and an international panel to police the code Page 21

Powers to protect Exmoor urged

Powers to protect moorland areas of high scenic and amenity value on Exmoor and to compensate farmers and landowners for any financial loss are recommended in Lord Porchester's government-sponsored report. The National Farmers' Union expressed anxiety Page 6

Ulster investigation

Three investigators from Amnesty International began their detailed inquiry into widespread allegations of police and army brutality in Northern Ireland. Although the hearings will be in private, *The Times* has obtained details of allegations that will be made by individuals and by Protestant and Roman Catholic pressure groups Page 4

Shot journalist dies

The death of Carlo Casalegno, a distinguished Turin journalist shot by terrorists on November 16, has roused fears in Italy that outspoken supporters of democracy may now become the targets for political violence Page 8

Mr Bhutto blamed

Mr Bhutto, the former Pakistan Prime Minister, was accused of playing a treasonous role in the breakup of the country in 1971 by Mr Abdul Wali Khan, the Pathan leader Page 11

14% offer to officials

Officials of the transport union will be offered productivity pay rises of about 14 per cent if a deal is accepted by the executive. The lift engineers' strike is to continue, at least until area meetings consider an offer next week Page 4

Brandt sixteen

Sixteen world politicians and economists picked by Herr Willy Brandt for his commission seeking ways to bridge the north-south development gap include Mr Edward Heath, the former Tory leader Page 8

Norway: A four-page Special Report on a country coming to terms with sudden oil wealth.

South Africa: Voters put Mr Vorster's call for white unity to test at today's election 9

Call to publish "secrets": Mr Michael Latham, MP, wants material about the wartime activities of the security services to be published after 30 years 4

Local health authority disowns unpublished mental hospital report

A report on a mental hospital alleging that voluntary patients were locked up and injected with drugs against their will was virtually disowned yesterday by the North East Thames Regional Health Authority.

The unpublished report on Friern Mental Hospital, north London, was prepared by the region's own monitoring team, but yesterday the health authority said it "could not confirm allegations in the report of unlawful practice in relation to informal patients at the hospital.

It considered that the report, that which it again refused to publish on the ground that staff talked to the monitoring team in confidence, no longer formed a "practical basis for further action".

Instead it has asked the area health authority to examine six aspects of organization and policy at the hospital. It has also asked Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, to give particular consideration to the care and treatment of informal patients during the review of the Mental Health Act, 1959, now under way.

Genuine doubts were held throughout the country about the correct interpretation of those provisions, a statement said.

Once that review was complete the authority would reconsider the practice at its hospitals. It had "complete confidence in the professional integrity and skills of the consultant and other staff at the hospital." It regretted the "unfortunate consequences for staff and patients alike of any assertions in the media to the contrary."

The authority's statement was criticized as "extraordinary, ambiguous and short-sighted" by Mr Eric Moonman, Labour MP for Basildon and chairman of the all-party committee on mental health. He said it did nothing to answer the most serious criticisms he had come across in 10 years' involvement with mental hospitals.

Dr David Pitcher, chairman of the medical committee at Friern hospital, said that if the statement silenced allegations against the consultants he and his colleagues would be satisfied.

"If it does not, we shall have more to say", he added. "We are quite clear that we do not, and never did, act illegally." There never had been any basis for the allegations. The doctors would have no objection to publication of *the report*.

Later Mr Ennals said in a Commons written reply to Mrs Thatcher, MP for the area covered by the hospital, that he welcomed the authority's statement and agreed with it. He deplored the speculation and unjustified allegations that had appeared in the media before the authority made any decision.

"I have every sympathy for the difficult position in which they have been placed and trust that this will now be ended," he said.

Insurance agent dismissed for past mental illness

Mr Henry O'Brien, an insurance agent, was dismissed by the Prudential Assurance Company last July, after it had been discovered that he had a history of mental illness, a Liverpool industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

Mr O'Brien, aged 38, of Massams Lane, Formby, had worked for the company for nine months. He alleges unfair dismissal.

Mind, the organization for mental health, which is supporting him, regards it as a test case. It is effectively the first of its kind to come before an industrial tribunal.

Mr Brian Wrigley, representing the Prudential, said that Mr O'Brien was required to fill in a questionnaire which disclosed no history of mental ill health. Reports on his work showed only commendation.

When Mr O'Brien applied for life assurance with the Prudential last May, his doctor gave a report disclosing a "history of psychosis and possibly schizophrenia". His mental illness had started in 1964.

Mr Wrigley said insurance agents had to visit people's houses and collect money.

The Prudential felt responsibility to the public for collectors it introduced into people's homes, Mr Wrigley said. Other doctors' reports said Mr O'Brien had undergone electric shock treatment and had suffered from hallucinations. He was dismissed because his application form did not disclose his mental illness.

Mr Roland Green, Prudential divisional manager, said there was no criticism of Mr O'Brien's work, but added: "Whoever opens the door to the man from the Pru has a right to expect that the person will be of high integrity and acceptable in every way. Here we had a man who deceived us right from the start."

Dr Brian Ward, a consultant psychiatrist and secretary of the Royal College of Psychiatrists' public policy committee, said he thought Mr O'Brien had suffered from an acute anxiety state and not schizophrenia.

After an operation about 121 years ago on a growth once thought cancerous, "he literally worried himself into a state of exhaustion".

Dr Ward added: "There is no evidence at the present time that he is suffering from any mental illness." He did not expect further attacks and considered Mr O'Brien fit for employment.

The hearing was adjourned, provisionally until January 31.

Bail plea fails

Christopher Heapes, aged 27, one of the men charged in connexion with last weekend's Dublin cash-and-carry store siege, failed in his application for bail at the Special Criminal Court inDublin yesterday, being remanded in custody, until December 12.

QC and son together

In an appeal in the Court of Appeal yesterday to stop a woman being deprived of her home, Mr Hugh Francis, QC, and his son, Richard, both members of Gray's Inn, appeared before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Goff an dLord Justice Cumming-Bruce.

Mormon is said to have made love willingly

Joyce McKinney, aged 27, a former beauty queen, maintained that Kirk Anderson, a Mormon missionary, willingly made love to her when she took him to a cottage, according to an alleged statement to the police read at Epsom Magistrates' Court, Surrey, yesterday.

Beforehand, she added, they indulged in oral sexual practices and played bondage games to help him to sort out his sexual difficulties.

Miss McKinney, in her alleged statement, said: "Mr Anderson lay willingly while I tied him up. If he had not, this little 120lb girl could not have tied up a 250lb 6ft 2in man."

Miss McKinney and Keith May, aged 24, both Americans, are accused of kidnapping Mr Anderson, aged 21, from the Church of Latter Day Saints at Ewell on September 1; unlawfully imprisoning him in a cottage at Lower Halstock, Okehampton, Devon; and possessing imitation revolvers and chloroform. Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

Miss McKinney, in evidence, said that during their earlier romance Mr Anderson refused to have sexual intercourse with her. She added: "We were together constantly and we did not have intercourse. He teased me and kissed me until I was out of my mind."

Earlier, Mr Anderson was cross-examined by Mr Stuart Elgrod, for the defence of Miss McKinney. He had said at a previous hearing that when he was manacled spread-eagled on the bed Miss McKinney tore off his pyjamas and a special one-piece undergarment. He said he had burnt the undergarment. "They are so sacred *to me that* any time they are desecrated in any way the proper method to dispose of them is to burn them."

Mr Anderson agreed that while still in the United States he had transgressed the rules of Mormon missionaries "by becoming involved with Joy" [Miss McKinney]; by being alone with her; by holding her in his arms; by having sexual relations with her; and by using her first name". That was "the very reason I did not go to the cottage of my own accord".

He denied that the only time or way he was tied down or shackled was during sexual intercourse. He denied that any "scenario" was being acted out.

Mr Anderson said Mr May helped to secure him to the bed. "*I did not know the intentions* was to have forced sexual intercourse. After they tied down one leg and then the other I could not resist the rest", he said.

The hearing continues today.

Five years' jail for travel man

Jack Blutstein, aged 33, head of a travel company, was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to five years' imprisonment for a £67,000 air ticket fraud, in which his victims included a nurse who wanted to go to see her sick mother.

Mr Blutstein, formerly head of Envoy International Travels, Regent Street, London, of Beeching Wood Lane, Borough Green, Kent, pleaded guilty to 16 charges of obtaining property and pecuniary advantage by deception.

Angry workers refuse to give up battle for pay parity in shipyards

Redundancies loom after Swan Hunter vote

From Ronald Faux
Newcastle upon Tyne

The decision by more than 1,600 angry outfitting tradesmen at Swan Hunter's yard on the Tyne to continue their overtime ban, even though it imperilled a £60m Polish order and the jobs of several thousand colleagues, was seen last night as a black chapter in the area's history.

As the men grimly left the hall in Wallsend where they had overwhelmingly rejected shop stewards' advice to return to normal working, recriminations began. Only 20 men voted in favour of lifting the ban.

It was feared last night that the management was drawing up lists of up to 800 men who will be the first wave of likely redundancies in the wake of the lost order.

A shop-floor union man said the workers were determined not to be blackmailed into giving up their fight for parity with the boilermakers. The issue was at the heart of inter-union rivalry at Swan Hunter, and had been for more than two years.

"It is a small dispute really and the Polish order has been brought into it", he said. "We want to build these ships but we want the same wage as every man at the yard. Why we have to lift the ban now is beyond me, because as outfitting trades we would not be working on the Polish order for at least six months."

Union leaders yesterday disputed suggestions that the Polish order would be "blacked" if it were directed to neighbouring yards.

Mr William Porter, regional organizer for the General and Municipal Workers' Union, said shop stewards felt that the dispute concerned parity, not ships. If the orders were directed to the Wear the work would be done.

"Certainly the yards could handle some of the ships, and they would not need any written assurances about completion on time".

Mr George Arnold, chairman of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, said it had been an angry meeting. "As soon as I walked into the hall I knew what the outcome would be. We had no chance to put over our reasons for calling off the overtime ban."

Mr Gavin Laird, a member of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers executive, said union members had left him in no doubt that their primary concern was not with the Polish order, but with the claim for parity. He was disappointed by the vote.

If the yard management had yielded to the outfitters, it would have run the risk of an immediate demand for more pay by the boilermakers, and structures from the Government for breaking the pay code.

Claim "separate": Mr Hugh Scanlon, AUEW president, said in London yesterday that Swan Hunter would be discussed at next week's meeting in York of the executive of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, representing all the unions concerned (*the Press Association reports*).

Mr Scanlon said his union executive appreciated that most of the claims for the reestablishment of differentials were justified.

The executive was not condemning the outfitters but it believed that the claim should be a separate issue and not involved in the question of the Polish order. His executive was concerned that the maximum amount of work should be carried out in British shipyards.

Expensive loss, page 23

Fire pickets angry with police

A dispute between firemen's pickets and the police developed yesterday after a man had died in a fire in a flat at Corby, Northamptonshire.

The pickets, who were a quarter of a mile away, say they had told the police that they were willing to tackle fires if people were trapped and were prepared to break into the fire station and take out appliances to save lives. The police, they allege, did not let them know about yesterday's fire, which was covered by two part-union firemen.

Senior police officers refused to discuss their arrangements, if any, with pickets. They believe that the man in the flat, who had not been identified last night, would have died even if there had not been a firemen's strike.

A girl aged two died when fire severely damaged her terrace home in Bethania Street, Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan, yesterday. Firefighting Servicemen and police attempted to rescue the girl, Amanda Jones, but were driven back by flames and smoke. Her mother, Mrs Carol Jones, aged 25, jumped to safety from a first-floor bedroom window.

Mr David Champion, aged 48, of Burnham-on-Sea, was killed yesterday after being thrown 30ft through the air into a river when an oil tank exploded. He was one of three men working on the 18,000-gallon tank at the Unigate dairy at Bason Bridge, near Highbridge, Somerset.

One of his workmates was taken to hospital suffering from cuts and shock. The other was treated on the spot for minor injuries.

Altogether six tanks were involved. The men were fitting one of them with safety railings.

A representative of the company said: "An oxy-acetylene burner had been in use."

Six fire engines manned by part-time firemen and a "Green Goddess" fire appliance went to the dairy, but the police said later that there was no fire and no further danger of explosions.

Industrial sabotage was one of the motives being considered by the police yesterday after the offices of a heating firm in Warwick had been set on fire. Fires were started in several places in the project drawing office and the computer programming room of Potterton International.

Flames were seen by a passer-by, and troops stationed at Warwick and Leamington attended the outbreak, the first in the town since the firemen's dispute began.

Tyne and Wear County Council is to discuss on Monday demands that troops should be allowed to occupy strike-bound fire stations and use brigade equipment.

Mr Terence Parry, the fiemen's leader, leaving 10 Downing Street with members of his executive.

Settlement of closed-shop strike in balance

By Our Labour Staff

An end to the National Union of Journalists' longest strike appears to be in the balance after talks between Westminster Press management and officials from the NUJ and printing unions.

The outcome of the six-month stoppage by about 100 NUJ members centred on Darlington over a closed-shop issue may be determined tomorrow. The strikers are to receive a report on the talks from Mr Kenneth Ashton, the union's general secretary.

But Mr Michael Duggan, the strike leader, said he was not optimistic about an early settlement.

It is understood that the unions suggested a possible compromise providing for a "tacit" closed shop. It appears that the NUJ is turning a blind eye to the position of Mrs Josephine Kirk Smith, a sub-editor whose refusal to join the union provoked the stoppage. She is now a member of the smaller, non-TUC, Institute of Journalists.

A peace deal is likely to involve a commitment for *immediate pay negotiations*.

Claim cannot be isolated, leaders told

A statement issued from 10 Downing Street after yesterday's talks on the firemen's strike said:

The Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, the Secretary of State for Scotland, and the Secretary of State for Employment met the executive of the Fire Brigades Union at the FBU's request. The Prime Minister told the executive he was glad to have the opportunity for a frank talk at which the union could set out their position and at which he could tell them why the Government was pursuing its present policy.

The FBU executive outlined their case, emphasizing that they believe they have fallen behind in the wages table. The Prime Minister thanked the firemen for the way in which they put their case and said that he accepted that the discontent among firemen is real. He emphasized that it is in the general interest that the nation should have a properly remunerated fire service. This is the Government's objective.

The Government's principal mandate is to overcome inflation and it is for that reason that we have been so insistent on the need for 10 per cent as the limit of increase for national earnings. Inflation is being worked out of the system although we have not yet fully succeeded. But by next spring and early summer it will be lower than for some years. Housewives, pensioners and families will all feel the benefit of this.

The Government's policy is to keep inflation down next year in order to preserve jobs and to remain competitive with other countries. More jobs will be lost if there is a wage explosion. Other countries with whom we are competing have wage settlements—the United States 8 per cent, Japan 8.8 per cent, West Germany 7 per cent, France 12.4 per cent.

Our trouble is that we are so highly structured that wage settlements in one area feed through into other areas. Only about 3 per cent of wage negotiations have been settled, and other trade unions are looking to see what happens in the firemen's case. Trade unions will be waiting to build on the firemen's settlement. *Prime Minister agreed that there* is not possible for them to be isolated.

On the merits of the firemen's claim, the Government wants a properly remunerated fire service that does not have a sense of grievance. The Government would be ready to encourage the employers and the union to sit down to work out together what formula should apply for fixing fire service remuneration for a substantial period ahead.

The Government would be also ready for employers and the union to sit down and see how their hours could be reduced. If such a formula was agreed the Government would be willing to see negotiations take place on how the results of such a formula could be phased in to begin operating from next November.

If agreement was reached on that, the Government could consider how such an agreement could be underwritten so that it was not thwarted by some unforeseen adverse change in our economic circumstances.

The present strike could not succeed but the Government's desire is to build a long-term future. The Prime Minister agreed that there was no need for a further detailed inquiry.

Clinical freedom questioned

A thorough investigation of doctors' rights to clinical freedom is long overdue, the Socialist Medical Association say in evidence to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service.

Such freedom, it argues, means that doctors can spend considerable sums on individual patients with no accountability to the public, which pays for the service, and that the value of costly treatments is rarely challenged.

Roll call for dead man

The police organized a roll call of hundreds of steelworkers at a British Steel Corporation mill near Rotherham yesterday to identify a man who fell into a 1,500°C furnace. They believe he was Mr Gary Bradbury, aged 25, of Browning Road, West Melton, South Yorkshire.

'Express' owner predicts healthier Fleet Street

Continued from page 1

has been published only in Manchester *since November 21* because of the journalists' pay dispute.

Mr Matthews said that "several hundred thousand" extra copies, perhaps as many as 500,000, would be added to the print run.

Mr Keys told Mr Matthews in a letter sent before yesterday's court decision:

I want to see good—and yes, firm —management in Fleet Street, but let me also state to you that such management would not have the right to pursue a course that pays no regard to the interests of labour and the nation.

Sogat objects to your company (and any other publishers) who have sought to take unfair advantage of another colleague in the industry. You seek to promote the declining sale of the *Daily Express* to the disadvantage of the *Daily Mirror* when that paper has no means of defending itself.

If this dispute continues much longer and if you and your colleagues are permitted the opportunity to gain circulation at the *Mirror's* expense, then there will be no need for the *Mirror* to contemplate reopening, for you, and others would have dealt a mortal blow to that organization. Normal, circulation shows, I can and do accept, but not of the type that you propose. Such a war would not only adversely affect print workers, but remove further titles from the market.

After the Court of Appeal had found in favour of Beaverbrook Newspapers Mr Keys gave an undertaking through counsel not to prevent Sogat members from carrying out their employers' instruction to print and publish more copies.

The London-based *Daily Mirror* journalists met last night in a ball off Fleet Street to discuss the sudden turn in events.

Last week the management withdrew a pay offer of an increase of £1,533 a year plus a merit review, and a commitment to talk about those affected by new printing technology, after Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, had said that "certain aspects" of the proposed deal (which has been rejected by the journalists) did not conform to the Government's pay policy.

Law Report, page 6

Fine on dog owner who opposes park by-law

From John Chartres
Burnley

Herbert Johns, aged 55, an animal lover, of Burnley, Lancashire, who refuses to recognize the legality of a new bylaw banning dogs in the town's public parks, was fined £20 on four summonses by Burnley magistrates yesterday. He said he might go to prison rather than pay.

The magistrates adjourned indefinitely four similar summonses against a woman dog owner after hearing that the legality of the bylaw, which came into effect in June, has still to be tested in the High Court.

Both cases were delayed because of difficulties in assembling a bench of magistrates able and willing to hear the cases.

Members of the "Pro-Dogs Association" applauded the decision to adjourn the summonses brought against Mrs Maureen Stiles, aged 28, of Scarlett Street, Burnley, who is accused of walking her Jack Russell terrier Tiny and her Staffordshire bulldog Sally in Scott Park, Burnley. The park was presented to the town by a former alderman in 1895.

Earlier Mr Johns, of Creswick Avenue, refused to answer four summonses of walking his Labrador-Alsatian cross Ricky in Scott Park on four successive days in October. A plea of not guilty was entered on his behalf. Six park rangers gave evidence against him, and at one stage he said: "Who gave those petty pompous big-headed councillors at Burnley Town Hall the right to tell ordinary people that they cannot walk their dogs?"

Mr Johns, who served with the Eighth Army, said that one of the four freedoms he had fought for included an Englishman's right to walk a dog in a park. He found some of the park rangers "arrogant".

Mr Frank Clifford, of Nelson, county secretary of the Pro-Dogs Association, giving evidence for Mrs Stiles, said Burnley council had applied for an injunction in the High Court restraining seven members of his organization from walking their dogs in the town's parks and from inciting others to do so. His members were defending the action, and only an interlocutory injunction had been granted.

The by-law concerning the Burnley Borough Improvement Acts of 1871 and 1883 was passed by the borough council and approved by the Home Secretary. It has caused widespread controversy. The only exemption is for blind persons' guide dogs. Mr Clifford said he knew of no other local authority in the country that applied such a by-law.

Professor fined over farm stock

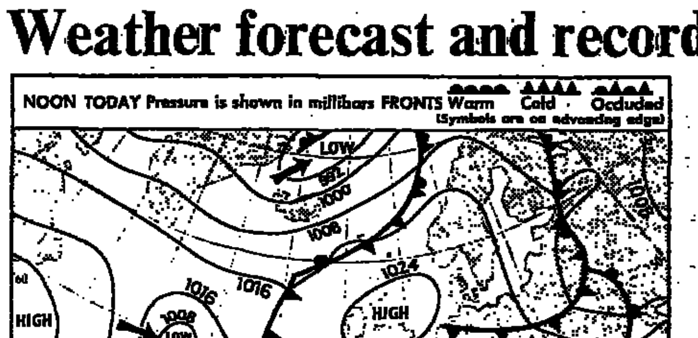
Dr Malcolm Head, a World Health Organization adviser, was fined £150 by magistrates at Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, yesterday, on being found guilty on three charges of causing unnecessary suffering to seven sheep and six fowls but not giving them proper attention on his experimental farm near Cobham.

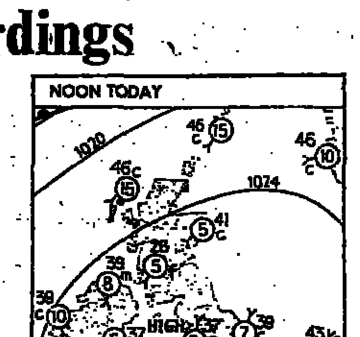
Dr Head, a professor at Surrey University, said he would appeal against the convictions.

Return home

Miss Jennifer Davis, aged 21, who took successful court action to evict her violent lover from their shared council flat, plans to return home today.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow.

Today

Sun rises: 7.42 am | Sun sets: 3.56 pm
Moon sets: *10.47 am* | Moon rises: *8.29 pm*

Last quarter: December 3.
Lighting up: 4.26 pm to 7.14 am.
Hight water: London Bridge, 4.6 am, 6.8m (22.4ft); 4.30 pm, 6.8m (22.4ft). Avonmouth, 9.23 am, 12.2m (40.1ft); 9.43 pm, 12.0m (39.3ft). Dover, 1.8 am, 6.4m (21.1ft); 1.25 pm, 6.2m (20.3ft). Hull, 8.32 am, 6.6m (21.7ft); 8.32 pm, 6.8m (22.5ft). Liverpool, 1.24 am, 8.4m (27.6ft); 1.36 pm, 8.6m (28.2ft).

An anticyclone will move slowly over Britain. Most parts will be cold and dry with sunny spells, after a frosty start with fog patches.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, central S and SW England, East Anglia, E Midlands and S Wales: Dry, fog patches clearing, bright intervals; wind NE, light; max temp 4°C (39°F).

SE England and Channel Islands: Rather cloudy, occasional showers, perhaps wintry; wind NE, light; max temp 4°C (39°F).

E, NW, central N and NE England, W Midlands, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow and N Ireland: Freezing fog patches, mostly clearing, sunny spells; wind light, variable; max temp 3°C (37°F), but lacally 0°C (37°F), where fog persists.

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth and Argyll: Dry, sunny intervals; wind W, light; max temp 5°C (41°F).

NE and NW Scotland, Orkney and Shetland: Mainly dry, rather cloudy; wind W, moderate; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Little change.

Sea passages: S North Sea: Wind N, moderate; sea slight.

Strait of Dover and English Channel (E): Wind NE, moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.

St George's Channel and Irish Sea: Wind variable, light; sea smooth.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 6°C (43°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am 2°C (36°F). Humidity 6 pm, 78 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.9hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,023.6 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sl, sleet; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	r	9	48	Cologne	c	0	32	L Palmas	c	21	70	N York	sn	[illegible]	35
Algiers	s	19	66	Copenhgn	c	3	37	Lisbon	c	9	48	Nice	c	11	52
Ams'rdm	c	3	36	Dublin	c	2	36	Locarno	sn	1	34	Oslo	f	−2	28
Athens	f	17	63	Edinburgh	s	4	39	London	c	5	41	Paris	c	0	32
Barcelona	f	11	52	Florence	f	8	46	Luxembrg	s	−1	30	Reykjavik	f	5	41
Beirut	s	20	68	Funchal	f	18	64	Madrid	c	7	45	Rome	c	9	48
Belfast	s	3	37	Geneva	c	0	32	Majorca	c	14	57	Ronldswy	c	5	41
Berlin	f	2	36	Gibraltar	f	14	57	Malaga	c	11	52	Stockhm	sl	1	34
Biarritz	c	4	39	Guernsey	f	5	41	Malta	c	20	68	Tel Aviv	s	21	70
Birmnghm	s	3	37	Helsinki	c	−6	21	Manchestr	s	3	37	Venice	f	6	43
Bristol	s	3	37	Innsbruck	s	0	32	Moscow	sn	−6	21	Vienna	s	1	34
Brussels	c	0	32	Istanbul	f	12	54	Munich	f	−5	23	Warsaw	d	1	34
Budapest	s	1	34	Jersey	f	3	37	Naples	c	12	54	Zurich	c	−2	28
Cardiff	s	5	41												

Overseas selling prices

Austria, Sch 18; Belgium, Bfr 25; Canaries, Pes 55; Denmark, Dkr 4.00; Finland, Fmk 3.25; France, Frs 3.20 (inc TVA); Germany, Dmk 2.20; Greece, Dr 50; Holland, Dfl 2.00; Hongkong, HK$ 6.00; Italy, Lire 600; Luxembourg, Lf 22; Madeira, Esc 20.00; Malta, 9c; Norway, Kr 4.50; Portugal, Esc 32.50; Spain, Pes 50; Sweden, Skr 4.25; Switzerland, Sfr 2.50; USA/Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 24.

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Inland and Air Edition Subscription rates on request.

Fine on dog owner who opposes park by-law

Are these the week's most uncomfortable facts?

If you have the job of renting cars for your company, you could see this advertisement as a monumental piece of boat-rocking.

Because our rates make Hertz, Godfrey Davis and Avis look very expensive indeed.

And if you have recommended one of them to your management in the past, that could make things a little uncomfortable for you, couldn't it.

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This table will help you to gauge just how massive the sum would be in a full year:

Taken from current tariffs: Swan National 1st June 1977, Avis 1st July 1977, Godfrey Davis 4th July 1977, Hertz October 1977.

TYPE OF CAR	SWAN NATIONAL	AVIS	GODFREY DAVIS	HERTZ
FORD ESCORT 1100L OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE **£4.25 (5p)**	£4.95 (5½p)	£4.95 (5½p)	1.3 GL model £4.95 (6p)
	UNLIMITED WEEKLY **£49.45**	£60.00	£59.50	£90.00
FORD CORTINA 1600L OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE **£5.85 (6p)**	£6.25 (6½p)	£6.25 (6½p)	£7.00 (8p)
	UNLIMITED WEEKLY **£63.05**	£75.00	£71.75	£115.00
FORD CORTINA ESTATE 1600L OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE **£6.75 (7p)**	£8.50 (8½p)	£8.25 (8½p)	GL model £11.00 (11p)
	UNLIMITED WEEKLY **£72.80**	£102.00	£94.50	Not shown
FORD GRANADA GL OR SIMILAR	DAILY PER MILE **£9.75 (10p)**	£13.00 (12½p)	£12.50 (13p)	Ghia model £19.00 (19p)
	UNLIMITED WEEKLY **£109.85**	N/A	£141.75	Not shown

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Make the switch and make more money.

TGWU officials may get productivity rises averaging 14%

By Our Labour Staff

The executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union is being recommended to accept a pay deal giving rises of about 14 per cent to the union's 450 full-time officials.

The proposal is to raise by £11.44 to £14.30 a week the salaries of officials all over the United Kingdom and Ireland, who earn between £80 and £100 a week. The TGWU, which has ostentatiously refused to accept the Government's 10 per cent limit on earnings, says the income policy.
settlement comes within the

That claim apparently relies on productivity gains flowing from a reduction of a quarter in the number of full-time officials while membership of the union has risen to more than two million.

Lift dispute continues: Council tenants, office workers and others having to walk upstairs because of a lift engineers' strike over a claim for pay rises averaging 13.5 per cent will get no relief in the immediate future after a decision yesterday by 200 shop stewards.

The stewards, representing 5,000 men, rejected a pay offer, but a final decision rests with area meetings of the liftmen within the next five or six days. They belong to the Electrical Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union.

The Engineering Employers' Federation, representing the 30 affected companies, made a "final offer" yesterday, of increases of between £4.20 and £7.20 a week.

Peace prospects depend heavily on the London area of the union, which has about three thousand liftmen. They are unlikely to meet before the beginning of next week.

Civil Service warning: Civil Service unions gave a warning yesterday of "disunity, disorder and chaos" over the wage settlement due next April unless the traditional pay research system is reintroduced immediately.

Mr William Kendall, secretary general of the staff side of the National Whitley Council, told a mass rally in Central Hall, Westminster, that there might be widespread industrial action.

He agreed that full pay research was not possible in time for the forthcoming settlement. "But it is still possible to use essential pay research information to produce pay-research-based settlements."

The pay research unit was suspended at the beginning of the income policy in 1975 and is being reactivated for the 1979 settlement. Full research for a settlement normally takes 18 months.

The full National Whitley Council meets for the first time since 1950 tomorrow at the unions' request. The permanent secretaries of the main departments will be present.

Mr Kenneth Thomas, general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, said yesterday that the meeting would be "the greatest collection of mandarins since the coronation".

He added: "The Government's refusal to use the pay research machinery for 1978 can only mean it intends to 'screw' us, even if it cannot 'screw' the rest of the community. Under no circumstances will we allow that to happen."

Deportation man fails to get his freedom

Frimpone Mensah, aged 35, a Ghanaian mechanic, who is being held in Pentonville prison while the Home Office decides whether to deport him, failed yesterday in an attempt to win his freedom so that he could leave Britain voluntarily.

The application for immediate release if granted, would give opportunity for freedom for other immigrants being similarly held.

Mr Mensah, a married man, who has been in Britain for four years, was convicted last September of harbouring an illegal immigrant. He had been fined £100 and recommended for deportation by Mr Brian Canham, the Marylebone magistrate. An appeal against conviction was dismissed.

Mr Robert Winstanley, Mr Mensah's solicitor, told Mr Canham yesterday that under schedule 3 of the Immigration Act, 1971, a magistrate, even after a deportation recommendation had been made and the subject taken into custody, could order the release of the person being held, pending a Home Office decision.

Mr Canham ruled that he was unable to consider the application. He said it should be made to the judge who had dealt with Mr Mensah's appeal.

After the hearing Mr Reuben Davies, of Haringey Immigrants Advice Centre, said that since his appeal failed Mr Mensah had been in custody for four weeks. Hundreds like him would leave the country voluntarily if released.

"It costs £100 a week to keep the man in custody, unnecessarily", he said. "The Home Office says he has to wait until the Home Secretary can sign a deportation order, but that he is now so busy because there are so many strikes that he has not the time to sign the order."

New amnesty: A new amnestey for some illegal immigrants was announced yesterday by the Home Secretary.

Powers to expel Commonwealth and Pakistan citizens who entered illegally by deceiving immigration officials before the Immigration Act, 1971, came fully into force on January 1, 1973, will not be used, Mr Rees said in a Commons written reply. That decision brings their treatment into line with that of illegal immigrants who entered before 1973 by dodging immigration controls.

Mr Rees said that the decision did not apply to those who last entered by deception after January 1, 1973, or to seamen deserters, stowaways or people who were subject to deportation

He also put a time limit on applications under that and a previous amnesty of December 31, 1978.

Parliamentary report, page 12

Voice of experience: Master-at-Arms Michael Warren, who has 24 years' naval service, showing the Royal Navy's youngest captain, Commander Michael Gretton, aged 31, around the frigate Ambuscade when he took command at Devonport yesterday. Commander Gretton, a former pupil of Cardinal Hume at Ampleforth, joined the Navy in 1963.

Death of prisoner could have been avoided, sheriff says

The death of Laurence Winters, a convicted killer, in the special unit at Barlinnie prison, Glasgow, in September, could have been avoided by strict searching of prisoners, Sheriff Principal Robert Reid, QC, said yesterday.

At a fatal accident inquiry, at Glasgow Sheriff Court, Sheriff Reid found that Mr Winters, aged 34, died by choking on his vomit while unconscious, as a result of an overdose of Tuinal, probably smuggled in by another prisoner. There was no evidence that he committed suicide, he said.

"The Tuinal appears to have been brought in by the prisoner John Neeson, who collected it in a toilet at the Douglas Inch Institute (Glasgow psychiatric clinic) during a visit to the clinic in the course of treatment", the sheriff added. "Winters's death might have been avoided by strict searching of prisoners who had left the special unit on escorted visits."

He recommended that to prevent any further such incidents those in charge of the special unit should consider how far searches of prisoners and visitors were consistent with the aims and methods of the unit.

Three prisoners from the unit gave evidence. They included John Neeson, aged 37, who was warned by the sheriff that he need not answer questions that might incriminate him.

Mr Neeson said that on the day of Mr Winters's death he collected both their lunches and took them to Mr Winters's cell so that they could eat together. Mr Winters was sitting on his chamber pot. He called out to him but got no response. He and a prison officer approached Mr Winters.

"I touched Larry on the back of the head and spoke to him but got no response. When I touched him he fell off the pot and on to the floor. His body was cold."

He said that while in the unit, he was attending the Douglas Inch clinic for group discussions as part of his rehabilitation. Mr Winters had approached him to collect some stuff from a lavatory in the clinic.

He found a matchbox sealed with adhesive tape behind a lavatory seat. Mr Neeson said he was not searched when he returned to Barlinnie, nor had he ever been searched after any of his escorted outside visits.

Robert Malcolm, a prison officer in the unit, said no prisoner returning from such a visit would be searched "unless there was any reason to believe there was something untoward". Visitors were not searched. That policy was something he inherited when he took over the unit in April.

Campaign to keep unit open

By Annabel Ferriman

A campaign to keep open the controversial special unit at Barlinnie prison, Glasgow, was launched yesterday by Prop, the national prisoners' rights movement, and Mr Russell Kerr, Labour MP for Hounslow, Feltham and Heston.

Mr Kerr challenged Mr Mr Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Glasgow, Cathcart, to spend 48 hours with him in the unit he has so often criticized.

"We shall see whether he remains of the same opinion after tha period", he said.

Mr Kerr and Prop fears that the future of the unit is threatened because of its unusual methods. Although it hoses five of Scotland's most dangerous and disruptive criminals, it allows the inmates wide scope for self-expression and encourages trust between warders and prisoners.

Mr Kerr said he would like to see the ideas behind the unit, which has experienced no violent incidents since it was set up in 1973, extended to prisons south of the border.

Recent events, including the death of Mr Winters and allegations that prisoners were allowed sexual relations with visitors, have brought its future into question.

Miss Margaret Howarth, a member of Prop, who visited Barlinnie with Mr Kerr in October, said plans to change the natur eof the unit had been laid in May.

Inquiry into Ulster brutality allegations

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

Three investigators from Amnesty International yesterday began a detailed inquiry into widespread allegations of police and army brutality in Northern Ireland.

Although the hearings will be in private, The Times has obtained details of allegations that will be made by individuals and by Protestant and Roman Catholic pressure groups.

Three cases are generally regarded as representative of the type of allegations that will be made. They show the seriousness of the allegations and the difficulty Amnesty will face in assessing their validity.

In contrast to Amnesty's last visit after internment was introduced in 1971, the Government and the police have indicated willingness to cooperate. Unofficially, senior officers of the Royal Ulster Constabulary are known to be confident that the report will find no evidence of ill-treatment, although they are prepared for criticism in individual instances.

Among the detailed allegations are the following:

1. Mr Leo Martin, aged 23, a member of a well known republican family, says he was arrested by soldiers on August 12 and held in police and military custody for three days. In a three-page statement, he says he was beaten with rifle butts, kicked, and spread-eagled against a wall.

His evidence will be accompanied by 10 colour photographs showing wounds he alleges he suffered at the hands of the security forces.

2. Mr Bernard O'Connor, aged 34, a Roman Catholic schoolteacher from co Fermanagh, arrested on January 22, was taken to the Castlereagh police holding centre on the outskirts of Belfast. While under interrogation, he says he was forced to pick up cigarette butts in his mouth and lick water off the floor.

At one point, his statement says: "A track suit top was put round my head in hood-style" and his nose and mouth were blocked.

Mr O'Connor's allegations formed part of a controversial BBC documentary broadcast on March 2. Since then his attempts to prosecute the police have been rejected by Ulster's independent Director of Public Prosecutions.

3. Mr Sean Mackin, aged 19, a west Belfast labourer, is also connected with a well known republican family. In a five-page statement he alleges that during interrogation at Castlereagh in May he was made to do press-up exercises, was beaten, and forced to stare at a white wall covered with a perforated pattern

At one point, he alleges about his police questioners: "I asked for the doctor, and one said he would get him for me. A few minutes later he came back in with another man who said he was a doctor. He asked what had happened to my face. 'Had I fell' (sic). I said no, that I had been beaten up. He asked me where I was sore? I said, my stomach and my jaw. He then asked me to lift up my shirt. When I did this he punched me in the stomach and the jaw. He said that was the best medicine for a terrorist bastard like me."

Mr Mackin's statement is accompanied by a report signed by Dr G. D. O'Neill, a Roman Catholic general practitioner from Springfield Road. It mentions injuries said to have been found on the patient, including six thumb-sized bruises on his forearm, and concludes: "I have no doubt that he was assaulted."

A senior RUC official said yesterday that he could not comment on the allegations. Mr Martin's case was still in the hands of the DPP, Mr Mackin was still under investigation by police officers deputed to to handle complaints, and Mr O'Conner's was the subject of a civil action, although the DPP had ruled that there would be no criminal prosecution against the police. The official added:

The chief constable has made it clear on many occasions that neither he, nor the head of any organization, could ever say that there has never been one occasion when one of his men may have fallen short of the mark. But he also made clear that in the RUC we have the most rigorous system for dealing with complaints to be found in the United Kingdom.

We also have documented cases of occasions where prisoners have inflicted injuries on themselves, or where they have deliberately engineered violent incidents. Among other factors, the propaganda campaign of allegations against the police is indicative of our continuing success in obtaining a high rate of convictions against terrorists.

We also have the tightest system for safeguarding the welfare of prisoners. A prisoner is medically examined before interrogation and after, and can call for a doctor at any time during questioning. Earlier this summer a system was also introduced whereby private doctors can be brought in by relatives. I emphasize again that at no time has there been any toleration of a practice of ill treatment by the RUC.

Report on the roots of poverty

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The most fundamental deprivations faced by the poor in inner-city areas are housing and money, particularly money, a consultants' report to the Government says. Policies need to be directed towards those needs, because improving social services would only alleviate the worst sufferings of the poor and not touch the fundamental causes.

The report, on the circumstances of families in the Small Heath area of Birmingham, was published yesterday by the Department of the Environment. A total of 136 of the poorest families were interviewed

The authors conclude: "The great need for most poor families was simple: more money, preferably earned; if not, derived from adjustments to taxes and allowances or through income support.

"There is nothing specific to Small Heath in this conclusion: earnings for unskilled work are not low compared to other areas and residents regard it as a cheap place to live. But they suffer further deprivation on top of lack of money, in their housing and in their social and physical environment, and these are related to the area."

One woman, whose husband was frequently unemployed and who had sometimes to resort to open fires for cooking, told the interviewer: "Sometimes I just feel like running and leaving the lot. In my bedroom, when it rains, it just drips in. In the lads' room there is a big dent in the ceiling, ready to collapse right down on top of them, but they won't do any repairs for you."

Circumstances of Families, Inner Area Study, Birmingham IAS/B'12 (Department of the Environment, £2.60).

Population falls for second year running

By a Staff Reporter

The numbers of live births and deaths so far this year have continued to drop in comparison with the same period of 1976, according to returns published today by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

In the first 46 weeks of this year there were 512,171 live births compared with 527, 532 in 1976. Deaths have fallen from 521,937 in the first 46 weeks of 1976 to 504,474 for the same period this yar. The figure for births is 97 per cent of the previous year's figure, and the figure for deaths represents 96 per cent.

The number of births has fallen from 589,000 for the year ended September, 1976, to 566,000 at September this year. Deaths fell from 596,000 to 581,000. For the second year running the population continues to decline in terms of liDe births compared with deaths.

No figures are available for emigration and immigration but emigration is expected to outstrip immigration and add to the general decline in population.

Manx MPs plan rise

Manx MPs are proposing to increase subsistence allowances by 35 per cent, petrol allowances by 20 per cent for themselves and Manx Government officials.

Mr Hattersley attacks EEC farming policy

By Hugh Clayton

Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday that shoppers were bewildered and offended by the impact of EEC farm policy. Consumers were financing production of food they did not want

Speaking at the Farmers' Club in London, he said he saw a clash between the effects of the common agricultural policy and the Government's aim for a lower rate of inflation.

His comments came during a debate about the EEC inside the Labour Party and while the Government is preparing for the 1978 farm price review

Final adjustments to British food prices at the end of transitional period of EEC membership will entail a rise of 7p a pound on butter next year and at least 3p a pound on beef.

New techniques 'could cut spastic births by half'

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

High-technology medicine and dedicated antenatal care could halve the number of spastic children born every year in Britain, according to a report from the Scottish Council for Spastics, published yesterday.

Investigations covering 10 years by doctors and nurses at the Simpson Maternity Pavilion and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, established four preventable main causes of damage: jaundice, prematurity, asphyxia and birth injury.

Concentrating on those, the team reduced brain damage from an average rate of 2.7 a thousand live births to 1.25 a thousand, well below the present United Kingdom figure.

Improved methods of feeding tiny premature babies had reduced illness in them from between 25 and 33 per cent in the 1950s and 1960s to 6 to 8 per cent. Premature babies, who might have taken a month or more to recover their birth weight, with consequent risk of brain damage, were now doing so in a fraction of the time.

In cases of asphyxia improved obstetric and paediatric techniques had helped to reduce damage from 1.5 to 0.4 a thousand live births over eight years. The number of babies showing abnormal behaviour had been halved from six to three a thousand. Improved methods had reduced the incidence of cerebral palsy caused by injury at birth.

Immunization for the one mother in six with rhesus-negative blood group, and intense light treatment were so successful that among 30,000 births at the Simpson Pavilion since 1970 there had not been one case of cerebral palsy from jaundice.

The Queen's jubilee year gifts on show to public

By Penny Symon

The Queen will today visit the collection of more than 800 gifts she has received during jubilee year. She has said that nothing is to be thrown away, and will decide to which of her homes each item should eventually be sent.

They are in the state rooms at St James's Palace and will be on view to the public from tomorrow until December 24.

Most of the gifts were given by people in Britain, some of whom stood patiently in the crowds and waited for a suitable moment to thrust their parcels into the Queen's hand as she walked by. Their china flowers, beakers, coathangers, dolls dressed as the Queen, toys, and socks, have a place in the exhibition alongside the grander gifts given by heads of state, local authorities and industry.

Many people have sent paintings of the Queen, but Sir Seretse Khama, on behalf of the people of Botswana, gave a large painting of a confrontation between a lion and a buffalo. The President of Turkey has given an embroidered silk tablecloth, President Kenyatta of Kenya an onyx table and the Pope a rare copy of the Bible.

To provide gifts many people painted, knitted, embroidered and sculptured, and a coalminer even carved a replica of jewelry out of a lump of coal. One woman sent a rock and roll record.

Among the many books are *Volcanism in Australasia*, *History of Ashby de la Zouch* and *The Co-operative Wholesale Society in War and Peace 1938-1976*.

A section of the exhibition is devoted to loyal addresses, some of them delivered by barge, bicycle, and, in one case, fishing boat. Another contains the gifts accepted by the Queen during her tour of the South Pacific, including a necklace of teeth and two human skulls from Papua New Guinea. The skulls are objects of worship.

The desire by the exhibition organizers to mingle the grand gift with the humble is illustrated by a display cabinet containing an artist's impression of the Rolls-Royce Phantom Six limousine in claret and black to be given by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, placed beside a teddy bear wearing a red-white-and-blue outfit.

The motor industry is contributing £60,000 towards the cost of the car, but production has been held up because of a strike at the coachwork division at Willesden, north London. The strikers have written a letter of apology for the delay to the Queen.

The exhibition, which is in aid of the Queen's Sliver Jubilee Appeal Fund, is open from 10 am until 7 pm, except on Sundays, when it will be open at noon.

Another exhibition in aid of the appeal, will be opened by the Prince of Wales at the Press Club, London, today. The exhibition, "Not By Appointment", is of cartoons of the Royal Family.

Diary, page 16

Hughie Green for trial on drink driving charges

Hughie Green, aged 57, the television compere, was committed for trial at Kingston upon Thames Crown Court by Richmond magistrates yesterday on two drink and driving charges. He pleaded not guilty. Reporting restrictions were lifted at the request of the defence

Mr Green, of Baker Street, St Marylebone, was charged with driving with an excessive blood-alcohol level and while unfit through drink or drugs.

Mr eith Evans, for the defence, said that Mr Green provided a blood sample which appeared to show 220 miligrams to 100 millilitres. Yet less than an hour later, when he took a breath test, the crystals did not turn green.

Unemployment cost put at £3,400m in lost output

By Mark Jackson, of *The Times Educational Supplement*

Unemployment cost Britain £3,400m in lost production last year, Mr Richard O'Brien, chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, estimates. That was part of the high costs unemployment places on society and the individual, he told a Birmingham University audience last night.

Mr O'Brien, who was delivering the first of the newly instituted annual Mason Memorial Lectures, based the figure on an assumption that even full employment meant 500,000 out of work. He said it did not include the cost of social benefits and lost tax.

Those who believed that employment was no longer a serious matter because the unemployed were given adequate incomes were wrong, he said.

Unemployment benefit in Britain compared unfavourably with that in other Western European countries. Despite much anecdotal evidence it was rarely true that people were better off out of work. Even where it might hold good, as in the case of a man with many dependants, research showed that money on its own did not overcome the corrosive and destructive personal effects of unemployment.

Mr O'Brien said the assumption that there was no serious difficulty was socially dangerous in its implications. If unemployment remained high we should need to guard against a tendency for the labour force to become polarized, with those in work all or most of the time protecting their interests at the expense of the unemployed.

The Manpower Services Commission would try to help by improving its placement network, by better prediction of changes in the labour market, and by providing the right training and adult retraining to meet the needs of the economy and of individuals. A new training policy designed to cover those needs will be announced next week.

Mr O'Brien challenged the view that universities and polytechnics should teach only what was useful to industry. "Quality of mind is as important in industry as elsewhere, and industry can and does get real value from graduates of all academic disciplines", he said.

Miss Arrowsmith chooses prison

Pat Arrowsmith, aged 47, the peace campaigner, was jailed by magistrates in Willesden, London, yesterday for refusing to pay a fine for obstructing the highway outside the Grunwick film processing plant in June.

Miss Arrowsmith, of Middle Lane, Hornsey, was fined £20 with £20 costs but said she would not pay the fine on principle. She chose the alternative of two weeks in jail.

Minister denies attempt to take over curriculum

By Our Education Correspondent

There is no question of the Government's trying to seize control of the curriculum in schools, Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference to mark the publication of the Government's circular asking local authorities to review arrangements for the curriculum in their areas, Mrs Williams said she regretted the National Union of Teachers' decision not to cooperate with the questionnaire included in the circular.

The union's cooperation was not essential, however, she said. It was the local authorities, not the teachers, which were being asked to reply to questions on what they thought they were doing, what they would like to do and what difficulties they had in carrying out what they wanted to do.

She nevertheless hoped to be able to reassure the National Union of Teachers that the circular was not "a secret attempt to hijack the curriculum."

Teaching the blind: Blind and partially sighted children should be integrated into ordinary schools, the National Federation of the Blind said yesterday in a contribution to the educational debate (the Press Association reports).

MP wants MI6 war papers published

By Peter Hennessy

The Prime Minister will be questioned in Parliament today about the practice of withholding all secret documents that reflect the peacetime existence of clandestine espionage agencies for more than the usual 30 years.

Mr Michael Latham, Conservative MP for Melton, will ask Mr Callaghan to announce the results of a government review of such matters. Ministers have been reluctant to abandon the present 30-year rule, which enables them to avoid answering questions about activities of the Secret Intelligence Service, or MI6 as it is known, in Parliament.

Mr Latham's interest which springs from his background as an historian was aroused by the publication of *Hitler's War*, by David Irving.

The Government's refusal to publish any document mentioning MI6 led, Mr Latham believes, to Mr Irving's construction of an unjustified conspiracy theory about the German peace initiative brought to London in the autumn of 1939 by a Swedish businessman, Birger Dahlerus. In a footnote to page 30 of *Hitler's War*, Mr Irving wrote: From the papers released to the PRO in London it is clear that neither Chamberlain nor Halifax rejected Hitler's terms out of hand when Dahlerus described them. Even Churchill talked approvingly of an armistice. However, the file that evidently contains notes of Chamberlain's talk with Dahlerus on September 29, 1939, is closed until 1990, and 45 pages of the FO file on Germany and future policy (FO 371/22,985) covering the crucial period of October 3-4, 1939, are unavailable until the year 2015.

When Mr Latham raised Mr Irving's claim with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Minister of State, replied that all the papers on the Dahlerus mission were available at the Public Record Office. No file was closed for 50 years. He added:

The 45 pages of FO 371/22985, which we have had to close for 75 years, consist mainly of a lengthy, but quite innocuous, memorandum on Hitler and the German attitude towards the war written by Dr Karl Friedrich Goerdeler, who was governing mayor of Leipzig until he resigned in 1937 because of his increasing antipathy towards the National Socialist regime.

The memorandum was sent from Brussels to an FO official by M Heineman, an engineer working with the Belgian firm Sofina. It was thought that Dr Goerdeler originally prepared his memorandum for the information of the King of the Belgians. Attached to the memorandum is a series of FO internal minutes, the content of some of which must, I fear, even today still be regarded as being highly sensitive.

Inquiries by *The Times* have established that among the "series of FO internal minutes" are comments on the Goerdeler memorandum from the late Admiral Sir Hugh Sinclair, then Director of the Secret Intelligence Service. Fear of revealing his name, his post and the existence of his organization, even though the file was compiled during wartime, has led to the retention of what Lord Goronwy-Roberts describes as an "innocuous" document for 75 years.

Call to improve old people's homes

By our Social Services Correspondent

Voluntary homes for old people are badly designed, offer inferior care compared with local authority homes and are grossly understaffed, a working party report says today. They are nevertheless being relied on increasingly to provide residential care for people for whom local authorities cannot find places.

In Scotland 38 per cent of people aged 65 and over in residential care are in voluntary homes: the proportion in England and Wales is 18 per cent.

The Government should therefore, make it easier for voluntary organizations to bring old people's homes up to the standards of local authority homes, the working party says. In particular, improvement grants could be made available to them.

The working party, set up jointly by the National Corporation for the Care of Old People and Age Concern, found that the policy of voluntary homes over which old people they will take is "out of line with the present objectives of residential care". Many still insist that residents should be able to care for themselves, although public policy is directed towards keeping such old people in their own homes for as long as possible.

Extra Care (NCCOP, Nuffield Lodge, Regent's Park, London, or Age Concern, 60 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey 50p).

HOME NEWS

Curb on development of Exmoor urged in Porchester report

By John Young
Planning Reporter

Powers to protect moorland areas of high scenic and amenity value and to compensate farmers and landowners for any resulting financial loss are recommended in a report on Exmoor published yesterday.

The report, by Lord Porchester, was commissioned by the Department of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture last April, after disputes between farmers and conservationists. Lord Porchester's brief was broadly to *assess the extent of changes in* land use and to recommend ways of ensuring a proper balance between conflicting interests.

Although he makes clear that his terms of reference specifically concerned Exmoor, the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that some of the recommendations might have implications for other national parks. The National Farmers' Union said the proposals would cause concern to Exmoor's farming community and to all farmers in national parks.

In spite of the report's expressed conviction that farmers *should not be made* to feel they are working against park interests, it is being seen as a victory for the conservationists. It was described as precisely that by the Council for the Protection of Rural England. The Exmoor Society said it was delighted.

Many of its recommendations can be assumed to have been influenced by the views of the Countryside Commission, which told Lord Porchester that it was convinced that the powers available to the park authority were inadequate.

Lord Porchester finds grounds for concern about the rate of reclamation of moorland for agriculture in the past 30 years. "If the balance of Exmoor scenery is not to be adversely affected, a category of land must be defined where change from the traditional appearance should be firmly resisted", he states.

The identification of such a category should be undertaken urgently by the park authority. There should be a firm commitment to the conservation of the defined areas, and accordingly a presumption against agricultural reclamation.

The report calls on the Ministry of Agriculture to *recognize and support a policy* of conservation, to the point where it will feel obliged to withhold grants for reclamation in designated areas.

It acknowledges that the EEC farm modernization directive may be "something of a straitjacket" in not permitting the ministry to discriminate between applications. In that case, the Government should take whatever steps are necessary to loosen the strings, to give the ministry discretion to stay its hand.

Lord Porchester considers that the effects of a conservation policy on national agricultural production would be *negligible. But the implications* for the individual farmer are completely different.

"For him, the withholding of grant could be a serious threat to the continuing viability of his holding", he observes. "He must clearly be protected from any adverse *consequences of a policy of this* kind and to that end should be *fairly* compensated."

Lord Porchester states that he favours a once-and-for-all capital payment to the occupier as well as the owner. The cost should be borne by central funds, although that may be *affected by the present dis*cussions between the Government and local authority associations on how best to finance purchases in the national parks.

The proposed moorland conservation orders would carry a right of appeal through a public inquiry. The park authority should be committed to purchase land within the defined areas as the opportunity arises and, quite separate from the question of compensation, farmers should be able to qualify for conservation grants.

Not more than 12,800 acres of moorland within the "critical amenity area" are at risk, the report says. If conservation orders were applied to that acreage over the years the maximum cost of compensation would be between £250,000 and £1m.

In a reference to the prolonged dispute that provoked *the report, Lord Porchester* observes that bad feeling on the park committee has sometimes hampered good administration.

Although he considers that "the character of Exmoor can be endangered not only by too much farming but too little", the initial response of the farmers' union yesterday seemed uncompromisingly hostile. Some of the proposals were difficult to reconcile with the balance of interest that the report accepted was necessary, would be negative in operation and would lose the good will of farmers, it said.

But the Country Landowners Association said the report was well balanced. It was glad that Lord Porchester had rejected new powers of compulsory purchase and wide extensions of the planning system, but his proposal ofr more conservation orders would require detailed discussion.

A Study of Exmoor. Report by Lord Porchester (Stationery Office, £2.75).

When the Albert Hall goes back to school

Happiest proms of their lives

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Proof that standards in at least one area of school life have been rising rapidly in recent years was offered at the successful two-day schools promenade concerts given in the Albert Hall, London, which ended last night.

Tickets for the concerts, now in their third year, were sold out three months in advance, largely to schoolchildren, judging from the audience. Two Russian song and dance groups were among the 800 young musicians featured in the performances, the first time the concerts have had any contribution from abroad.

There was a refreshingly irreverent carnival atmosphere in the vast hall when I went on Monday night, with paper streamers, banners, flags, airborne paper and waving schol scarves all helping to show the audience's nevertheless genuine appreciation of some excellent musicianship.

An informally dressed Yehudi Menuhin beamed down at the teenagers in the pit after playing the solo violin part in Vivaldi's Concerto *in C Major*, backed by the chamber orchestra of the William Ellis School, Camden, London, and said: "My successes! On both sides of the platform!"

Mr Menuhin has done a lot to bring music to young people, as performers and listeners alike.

The music was impressive in quality and in its wide range, varying on Monday from handbell ringers from St John's Primary School, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire, and the 12+ members of the classical guitar *ensemble from Holme* Valley, Holmfirth, West Yorkshire, to the beat band from the London borough of Hillingdon and the 106 members of the Surrey County Youth Orchestra.

The most outstanding performance of the evening for sheer professionalism and panache was to my mind the Kingsdale School Dance Band from south-east London, featuring *some superbly relaxed solo* improvisations in two big band jazz numbers.

But perhaps the most impressive and delightful was by the 70 girls, aged eight to 12, all dressed in red, of the Redlands Junior Recorder Band, from Worksop, Nottinghamshire, *playing a rondeau by* Purcell and a fugue in G with chorale by Albrechtsberger.

The schools promenade concerts are sponsored by *The Times Educational Supplement*. The National Music Council of Great Britain local authority award for 1977 was presented yesterday to the London borough of Greenwich. The council's local education authority award was won by Kirklees, West Yorkshire. The awards are designed to encourage the participation of local authorities in the musical arts.

Leena Ropponen, Eila Kettunen, Merja Saalasti, Marika Simola and Tuula Hakarainen before the au pair girls' agreement was signed.

Fair deal for au pair girls signed

By David Nicholson-Lord

Five Finnish girls attending the signing of a charter to guarantee conditions of future Finnish au pair girls in Britain, yesterday shook their blonde tresses, smiled winningly and rejected any suggestion they were overworked, underpaid or subjected to advances from lecherous husbands.

The only sign of exploitation came when the girls peeled off their outer layers and walked up and down London's distinctly chilly Baker Street for the benefit of press photographers.

The charter, agreed between Finland's Ministry of Labour and the Federation of Personnel Services of Great Britain, gives the girls a guaranteed maximum working day of five hours, one full day off a week, a *week's holiday* after six months, with a "going home" bonus of 50p for each week worked and weekly pocket money of £7.10.

In return they will provide what are described as "daily family duties". Two hours of baby-sitting, however, counts as one hour of work.

Individual agreements will be signed by the girl and her "hostess". The charter will be reviewed annually at national level and overseen by the federation, which represents 1,300 of Britain's 3,500 private employment agencies in its membership. A similar agreement has been signed with the Norwegian Government.

But the agreement will benefit only some of the estimated 15,000 au pair girls in Britain *at any time. Only 900 of them* are Finnish or Norwegian.

The girls at the signing were marvellously contented. The typical routine for Miss Marja Kettunen, aged 22, of Pinner, is three hours' work in the morning and two or three afternoons' baby-sitting each week. For the rest of the time she is free to attend English lessons and spend her £9 pocket money.

BR unable to match lorries for fish traffic

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Little prospect of getting large lorry loads of fish off the roads on to the rail system on the way from Mallaig in west Scotland to The Netherlands was offered by British Rail witnesses at a Commons select committee yesterday.

Mr Hamish Watt (Banffshire, Scot Nat) asked Mr Leslie Soane, general manager of Scottish Region, British Railways, whether it had made any effort to go after the fish traffic from Mallaig and to take the 30-ton Dutch lorries off the narrow west coast roads.

Mr Soane said the Dutch lorries could load and drive night and day, arriving in The Netherlands within 48 hours, which British Rail could not match at present.

He told Mr Robin Maxwell-Hyslop (Tiverton, C) another member of the trade and industry sub-committee of the expenditure committee, investigating the fishing industry, that, while refrigerated wagons could be linked to the back of passenger services from Mallaig, the transit time would be slower than by lorry.

Mr Watt: Are you asking the committee to believe that you could not match the speed of lorries from Mallaig to the Channel ports?

Mr Soane: If we had a regular flow of traffic that would justify a special train. That is the problem: the volume and the seasonal nature of the fishing industry, which ties up resources which we cannot afford to keep lying around for use at the drop of a hat.

Mr Roy Harries, chief freight manager, said they would like a financial commitment from the fishing industry for refrigerated transport, for which the industry could get government aid, although British Rail could not.

Trust acquires Welsh island of pilgrimage

From Our Correspondent
Holyhead

Bardsey Island, two miles off the tip of north-west Wales and a sanctuary for many rare birds, has been acquired by a trust that will open it to the public.

The Bardsey Island Trust, a registered charity company, has obtained for £103,000 an option to purchase the 450-acre island from Mr Michael Pearson, son of Lord Cowdray.

Dr Richard Arnold, secretary of the Bardsey Bird and Field Observatory and a member of the trust, said yesterday: "The trust must now raise £200,000 within three years in order to secure the island."

Bardsey has a small schoolhouse, an eighteenth-century *cottage, six nineteenth-century* farmhouses, a church and manse and the remains of the thirteenth-century Augustinian abbey of St Mary.

Dr Arnold said: "The trust will protect the island's beauty."

Judge 'made a technical error' in murder trial

From Our Correspondent
Leeds

Mr Justice Peter Pain said at Leeds Crown Court yesterday that he made a technical error after a prisoner John Paton, had changed his plea last week and admitted killing a fellow prisoner. He told the jury yesterday that after he had jailed Mr Paton, aged 41, for life, last week, he realized that *he had failed to obtain a formal* guilty verdict from the jury.

"I came to the conclusion that that made the first trial a nullity", he said.

When Mr Paton, from Luton, Bedfordshire, had the murder charge put to him again after the error, he changed his plea for *a second time and denied* killing Robert Houston, aged 23, in Wakefield jail 14 months ago.

The retrial continues today.

Speedier housing schemes 'might save millions'

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Councils could save many millions of pounds by streamlining the management of their housebuilding programmes, a working group set up by the local authority associations states in a report published today.

It says that each year local authorities start about 100,000 new dwellings, and have under construction houses worth about £1,400m. If those dwellings could be brought into use more quickly it would mean better housing conditions and less misery that much earlier for those households.

Mr Tom McLatchie, chairman of the working group, told a press conference that if 5 per cent of the annual value could be saved, it would yield £70m for more and better housing. "I would hope that a 5 per cent saving could be achieved", he said.

The working group was set up by the local authority associations last February after a meeting with Mr Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction. It represents local government's own self-critical look at the situation with the help of the Department of the Environment and the private sector.

The group's aim was to produce a constructive report to provide guidelines for local authorities based on the practices of the best councils. Most councils could benefit if they looked again at their management structures and information systems, the report concludes.

Giving an example of savings councils could make the report says that on a development for 100 houses costing £1.25m, a feasible reduction in the time from start to finish could save £47,000 or about 4 per cent.

But there must be clear decisions on policy and resources from the principal policy committee. A single committee must have full responsibility for the housebuilding programme, and should delegate responsibility to officers, who should be allowed to get on with their jobs.

A development manager with executive responsibility should be appointed in each authority to be responsible for implementing the housing development programme. He would be fully accountable to the committee for the progress of all aspects of housing schemes.

The working group is to publish a second report before next summer concentrating on efficiency and value for money.

The Management of Local Authority Housebuilding Programmes (AMA, 36 Old Queen Street, London, SW1H 9JE; ADC, 25 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6LE; or Department of Environment, Room 1107, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London, SE1 7ER, 50p).

Workmates informed on man in schoolgirl case

A council rat catcher's workmates who remembered that he had boasted about the good time he had had with a woman late one night, nine months before, recalled what he had told them when they heard about a sadistic rape, and told the police, Miss Ann Curnow, for the prosecution, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

National publicity about the case, involving a girl of 14, last July, prompted Mr Roberts's friends to inform. The day after the report appeared detectives were waiting for him as he arrived for work, counsel said.

Mr Roberts, aged 30, of Holness Road, Stratford, London, was jailed for 22 months when he pleaded guilty to having unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 16. His plea of not guilty to rape was accepted.

Miss Curnow said the girl was on her way home when she was grabbed by three boys, two of 15 and one of 14. They threatened her with a knife and dragged her onto a common, where she was stripped naked. She was subjected to a most disgusting sexual ordeal, during which she was raped at least seven times and kicked.

As she lay helpless, too terrified or too exhausted to scream for help or put up resistance, two men who had been drinking appeared. One of them was Mr Roberts. The boys invited them to have intercourse with the victim and they did so.

In July last the boys were sentenced to 10, eight and six years' detention. The other man had not been caught.

No motorway bids

Four years after inviting tenders for a proposed service area on the M62 motorway near Goole, Humberside, the Department of Transport has still not received a bid.

Arresting award

Police Constable Joseph Wilson, aged 31, of Bradford, received a bonus of £50 yesterday for catching 12 suspects in a day among 122 arrests he made between February and October.

Law Report November 29 1977 — Court of Appeal

Newspaper wins appeal over 'no extra copies' instruction

Beaverbrook Newspapers Ltd v Keys

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Goff and *Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce*

The instruction by Mr William Keys, general secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, to members at the *Daily Express* not to produce extra copies in view of the non-publication of the *Daily Mirror* in London was held not to be in furtherance of a trade dispute and not in the *public interest*.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by Beaverbrook Newspapers Ltd from the refusal of Mr Justice Cusack, in chambers yesterday, to grant them an interlocutory injunction restraining Mr Keys from inducing those of the *Daily Express* employees who were Sogat members to break their contracts of employment by refusing to handle or distribute such quantities of the paper as the plaintiff company might reasonably direct.

Their Lordships accepted an undertaking on behalf of Mr Keys in the terms of the injunction sought.

Mr Andrew Leggatt, QC, and Mr Geoffrey Shaw for the *Daily Express*; Mr Stuart Shields, QC, and Mr Michael Brent for Mr Keys.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the *Daily Mirror* was in dispute with its journalists. That was certainly a trade dispute. As a result publication of the paper had stopped on November 21. In consequence the *Daily Express* had greatly increased its circulation.

On the evening of November 23, when the *Daily Express* was getting ready to print an extra 750,000 copies the director of industrial relations was informed than an instruction had been given by someone from Sogat that no extra copies should be published. He telephoned Mr Keys, who said that he was sorry about all the arrangements made for the extra copies but that he had instructed his members not to handle any extra copies. Mr Keys told the director that the law might be on his side but that he (Mr Keys) had common sense on his and that if the *Daily Express* tried to enforce its legal rights he would close it down.

It was plain that Sogat members employed by the *Express* were bound under their contracts of employment to handle and distribute copies of the paper as requested by their employers. For Mr Keys to instruct them not to handle any extra copies was a plain inducement to break their contracts of employment. Unless it could be excused that was contrary to the law.

It had been suggested that the *Express* was in some way infringing an agreement it had entered into on November 17, 1976 with the *Daily Express* Publishing Chapel of Sogat, but his Lordship could see no justification for that.

Mr Keys relied on section 13 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, as amended, which said that an act done by a person in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute was not actionable in tort on the ground only that it induced another person to break a contract or interfered with its performance. It seemed to his Lordship that the only trade dispute was that at the *Daily Mirror*, a dispute to which neither Sogat nor its members were a party.

Mr Keys had accused the *Daily Express* of seeking to devour the *Daily Mirror* market as if there was something reprehensible in what the *Daily Express* was trying to do. But all it was doing was acting as ordinary commercial people would to satisfy the demand of readers and retail distributors.

The consequence of Sogat's action was much injury to the trade and the public. Clearly, that action could not be said to be in furtherance of the *Daily Mirror* dispute. It was something done in consequence of a consequence of a trade dispute and was far too remote to be prayed in aid.

In *BBC v Hearn* ([1977] 1 WLR 1004, 1011), it was said that coercive interference with a man's freedom of trade or action was not itself a trade dispute.

It seemed a plain case for an injunction. However, the judge had thought that the balance of convenience was in favour of preserving the status quo and not allowing the *Daily Express* to publish extra copies.

If there was no injunction it was quite plain that the *Daily Express* would suffer enormous damages which Mr Keys could not afford to pay. It was difficult to see what damage Mr Keys would suffer.

On broader grounds, however, *the public interest had to be con*sidered: the newspaper business had to be allowed to go forward. An injunction should be granted.

LORD JUSTICE GOFF, agreeing, said that there was no doubt that Mr Keys's action had induced Sogat employees of the *Daily Express* to break their contracts.

It was said that there was a dispute as to whether the chapel agreement meant that Sogat employees were bound to handle extra copies. That was a very unreal way of presenting it.

The only real dispute was between the *Daily Mirror* and its employees. It was said that Mr Keys's action was in furtherance *of that dispute* because it deprived the *Daily Mirror* of the argument that if its employees *did* not return to work it would be driven out of business and there would be no employment for anybody.

That was an ingenious suggestion, but it was not what Mr Keys had thought he was doing when he gave his instruction. On the evidence that way of putting the defence was not likely to succeed.

One had to decide on the balance of convenience whether or not the injunction should be granted. The balance of convenience was all in favour of granting the injunction. It was unreal to look at it merely as a matter of damages.

Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Lovell, White & King; Robin Thompson & Partners.

Queen's Bench Division

Wage agreement remains unaltered

Regina v Central Arbitration Committee, Ex parte Deltaflow Ltd

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Park and Mr Justice May

A national agreement made in *1975 between the Engineering* Employers' Federation and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions that the minimum wage in the industry was £42 could not be altered by tacit agreement that such an amount was now unrealistic. Therefore it remained a "recognized term" for the purpose of considering wage claims under the Employment Protection Act, 1975, Schedule 11.

The Divisional Court granted an order of certiorari to Deltaflow Ltd, of Birmingham, to quash a decision of the Central Arbitration Committee that a wage claim by toolmakers, fitters and electricians, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, should be considered in the light of the general level of wages in the industry and not on consideration of the minimum wage settled in the national agreement.

Paragraph 1 of the schedule provided: "A claim may be reported to the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, ... that as respects any worker an employer is, in respect of any matter, observing terms and conditions of employment less favourable than the recognized terms and conditions or, where, or so far as, there are no recognized terms and conditions, the general level of terms and conditions."

Paragraph 2 provides that "(a) the 'recognized terms and conditions' means terms and conditions of workers in comparable employment in the trade or industry ... which have been settled by an agreement ... to which the parties are employers' associations and independent trade unions ...; and (b) the 'general level of terms and conditions' means the general level of terms and conditions observed for comparable workers by employers ... and for the purposes of sub-paragraph (a) above the reference to terms and conditions, in a case where minimum terms and conditions have been settled as mentioned in that sub-paragraph, is a reference to those minimum terms and conditions."

Mr Alan Campbell, QC, and Mr Bruce Reynolds for Deltaflow; Mr Alexander Irvine and Lord Wedderburn for the union; Mr Henry Brooke for the Central Arbitration Committee.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the case concerned collective bargaining in respect of wage claims taking place on two levels—national level with agreements between employers and the union and plant level when agreements were made with individual employers supplementing the advantages contained in the national agreements.

Schedule 11 of the Employment Protection Act dealt with the compulsory negotiations of wages and conditions.

A formal agreement between the employers and the unions was made in May, 1975, and the minimum wage was fixed at £36, increased in November, 1975, to £42. In 1976 the union complained that Deltaflow were applying terms and conditions less favourable than those generally found in the industry and the matter was submitted to arbitration. If the minimum wage of £42 applied, the settlement under paragraph 2(a) would be less generous than if it was under paragraph 2(b) on consideration of the general level of terms and conditions.

The brief point was whether, when the claim was determined, the employers were employing recognized terms and conditions, and whether the court should look at £42 as being the basic minimum or at the general terms and conditions applicable in the industry. The Central Arbitration Committee took the view that £42 was no longer effective as a minimum wage as it did not accord with reality and it could be disregarded and that therefore the minimum rates should be decided by reference to paragraph 2(b) and the general terms and conditions in the industry. The committee recognized that the national agreement remained effective for other purposes.

In his Lordship's judgment the committee's conclusion that the minimum wage had gone was not tenable. Paragraph 1, dealing with "recognized terms and conditions", read with the definition in paragraph 2 made it clear that recognized terms and conditions were terms and conditions determined by agreement. The word "agreement" was not included accidentally. It was a word which had a clear meaning in law and in a schedule to a statute the language should be given its strict legal meaning. The written agreement of May, 1975, could not be altered except by a new agreement made by competent people whose intention was to effect change. The idea that there had been a tacit alteration in the terms of the agreement derived *from the fact that nobody* had bothered with it for some time; it was not a way in which a formal agreement could be effectively varied.

There had been no effective variation, and for the purposes of Schedule 11 £42 was still the minimum wage. The committee had erred in law.

Mr Justice Park and Mr Justice May agreed.

Solicitors: Barlow, Lyde & Gilbert; Pattinson & Brewer; Treasury Solicitor.

'Charged with the same offence'

Regina v Rockman

Before Lord Justice Ormrod, Mr Justice Thompson and Mr Justice Jupp

[Judgment delivered November 22]

Two defendants each charged with a different offence against the other arising out of the same incident are not charged with "the same offence" so as to enable one to cross-examine the other as to his character and criminal record under section 1(f) (iii) of the Criminal Evidence Act, 1898.

The Court of Appeal, so deciding, dismissed an appeal by Austin Micky Rockman, aged 29, against conviction at Inner London Crown Court (Mr Recorder Bernstein, QC) of common assault. He had been given an absolute discharge.

Section 1(f) provides: "A person charged and called as a witness in pursuance of this Act shall not be asked, and if asked shall not be required to answer, any question tending to show that he has committed or been convicted of or been charged with any offence other than that wherewith he is then charged, or is of bad character, unless— ... (iii) he has given evidence against any other person charged with the same offence ..."

Mr Lawrence Kershen for the appellant; Mr Martin Binning for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that there was a fight between the appellant and another man, Davis, and they were tried on the same indictment, one count alleging against the appellant an assault occasioning actual bodily harm and another alleging against Davis malicious wounding.

A quarrel started when Davis tried to enter the appellant's shop against his wishes. The appellant used the word "tosh", which provoked Davis, who swung a punch at the appellant, who retaliated with a blow, which sent Davis to the ground.

Two police officers said in evidence that they had seen the appellant kicking Davis while he was on the ground, but the appellant said that he was trying to free his leg to which Davis *was clinging. When the two had* separated, Davis rushed at the appellant and stabbed him with a knife.

Davis's defence of self-defence failed. He was convicted and sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment.

In relation to the appellant, the prosecution made it clear that they were not relying on the original blow struck by him, but only on the evidence of the police officers that he kicked Davis. He was found not guilty of assault occasioning actual bodily harm but con*victed of common assault*. The recorder made his view of him clear by imposing the least possible sentence—an absolute discharge.

On the appeal Mr Kershen took a point of law arising under section 1(f)(iii). He wished to cross-examine Davis when he was in the witness-box to show that he had previous convictions. The recorder refused his application on the ground that the appellant and Davis were not charged with "the same offence" for the purposes of the section. The question was whether in law counsel could cross-examine Davis. That depended on whether or not Davis and the appellant could be described as charged with "the same offence".

Prima facie there could be no question of the section applying because Davis was charged with maliciously wounding the appellant, and the appellant with occasioning actual bodily harm to Davis. It would be perhaps rather difficult to think of two offences more clearly separate, although they arose out of the same incident.

Mr Kershen relied on *R v George Russell* ([1971] 1 QB 151). In that case, the defendant was charged with possessing three forged £5 notes and uttering them to another man who was charged on the same indictment with possessing the same notes. The other man having given evidence against the defendant, an application by counsel for the defendant to cross-examine him under section 1(f)(iii) was refused by the trial judge on the ground that the two men were not charged with "the same offence". On appeal by the defendant, it was held that they had been charged with "the same offence" for the purposes of the section, in that the offences of possession charged were in nature subject-matter and circumstances the same and immediately successive one to the other.

But Mr Binning, for the Crown, said that the essential feature of the section, if cross-examination was to be allowed, was that the two defendants should be charged in some way or other as together pursuing the same enterprise. He submitted that the purpose of the section was to discourage two defendants from blaming each other with impunity; and that the section could not apply where the esssence of the case was that each defendant was charged with different offences against the other.

Their Lordships thought that Mr Binning's submission was right. Accordingly, the recorder's ruling was correct: the section did not apply to the present case.

The appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Registrar of Criminal Appeals; Metropolitan Police Solicitor.

Equality and 'red circle'

Outlook Supplies Ltd v Parry

The Employment Appeal Tribunal amplified statements made in *Snoxell v Vauxhall Motors Ltd* ([1977] ICR 700) on the applicability of section 1(3) of the Equal Pay Act, 1970, in cases where a particular employee was on a protected wage.

Section 1(3) of the Act provides that: "An equality clause shall not operate in relation to a variation between the woman's contract and the man's contract if the employer proved that the variation was genuinely due to a material difference (other than the difference of sex) between her case and his".

MR JUSTICE PHILLIPS, sitting in the Appeal Tribunal with Ms P. Smith and Mrs M. Sunderland, said that cases arising under section 1(3) could never be solved by rule of thumb or by attaching a label describing it as a "red circle case." It was necessary to look at all the circumstances. The "protection" of wages, even when done for good reason, gave rise to much misunderstanding which increased as time went on and should be phased out.

For the same reason joint consultation was desirable where it was intended to introduce or continue such a practice. When determining whether the employer had discharged the onus on him under section 1(3), an industrial tribunal *should take into account* the length of time elapsed since the protection was introduced and whether the employers had acted in accordance with good industrial practice in their attitude to the continuance of the practice.

The decision of an industrial tribunal under section 1(3) was *one of fact. It might be that in Snoxell* the Appeal Tribunal had tended to treat a question of fact as one of law when they implied that indefinite prolongation of a "red circle" could not result in a defence under section 1(3) failing where earlier it might have succeeded. The question was whether the industrial tribunal was satisfied that the employers had discharged the burden on them. Prolonged maintenance of a "red circle" might lead to a doubt whether the employers had discharged that burden.

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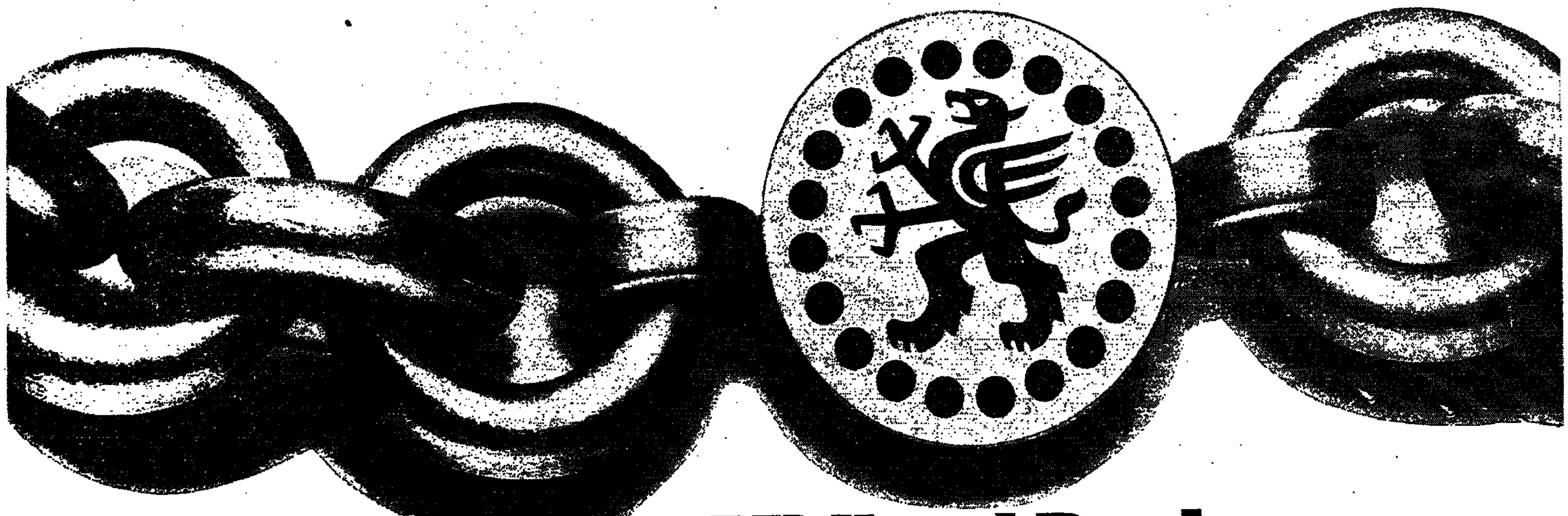

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WEST EUROPE

Prospect of Marxist ministers in West worries Nato chief

From Ian Murray
Paris, Nov 29

General Alexander Haig, supreme commander Allied Forces in Europe, confessed himself worried today at the prospect of "Marxist" ministers in West European governments. Addressing a session of the Western European Union (WEU), he said that there might be unfortunate consequences to the Nato alliance extreme left ministers were in power.

Their presence, he said, could prevent highly secret information being exchanged. It might also have the effect of relegating the finance of defence to the second rank in priority, which would undermine the military deterrent effect of the Nato alliance.

General Haig was particularly concerned by the growth of Soviet influence in Africa and the Third World. "Since 1974 the Soviet Union has shipped 50 per cent more than the United States in armaments to the Third World. It is now supplying 20 African states with a commitment of arms", he said.

There were, he said, changes in Third World dynamics. There had been great hopes for the emergent Third World in the last decade, but today these countries "almost without exception" had become dictatorial models of the left or right. It was sad to see nation states at each other's throats with Soviet arms.

The West had a responsibility for settling the Third World problem, he continued. "Whether or not we engage ourselves in these events we will be increasingly affected by their outcome. Each one of us is affected by the outcome of the Third World events."

General Haig welcomed the reported willingness of the Soviet Union to negotiate on the level of arms sales to the Third World, but he gave a warning that Soviet involvement in the Third World made it essential for Nato to improve its collective capacility to respond to crises on its flanks.

He was condersed by the "degree of myopia" about the forces deployed in Central Europe. But were the imbalance of forces corrected tomorrow it would not begin to solve the problems of the balance of arms in the Western world.

One third of the Soviet forces today were deployed agains China. If that position were to change it would also change the Nato position. The change of leadership in Peking might lead to such a change.

The expansion of the military industry in the Soviet Union was so great that the ability of the West to react was being eroded. This meant that the Soviet Union had been able to build up and modernize its forces facing Nato in Europe with a large residue of modern equipment.

"The days are gone when we could exploit the Soviet deficiencies. That is what massive retaliation was all about. We are concerned that the threats involve the politics, economy and industry of the Western powers. Myopia does not begin to solve the problems we face."

General Haig made his speech and expressed his fears about Marxist involvement to an Assembly which contained 12 Italian and four French Communist members. When he last spoke to the WEU in 1975 it had no Communist members.

The Assembly also had before it a report on defence drawn up for the first time by a Fench Socialist—and a member of the extreme left socialist group Ceres at that. This report, by M. Raymond Forni, shows the way a Union of the Left government in France might look at the defence question.

West Europe, it says, is well aware that any war, whether fought with conventional or nuclear arms, would bring total ruin. "Therefore, while there may be wide divergences between the defence policies of tries, they draw close togehter in their recognition of the need for a deterrent. It is no secret that today only nuclear weapons can provide a deterrent capable of making a possible enemy renounce the use of force."

M .Forni says that "internal developments in certain member countries might make their relations with the Aerican partners in the North Atlantic Greaty far ore difficuk" because the United States would not be prepared to accept communists in government. Nevertheless, he says that "aFrench majoiryty, whatever it may be, will have to take account of the De Facto .. solidarity between France and is defence links wih he Wes.

"Should he fuure European Union come ino being, it will not make its presence felt by breaking new ground," he says in conclusion. "On the contrary, it is by pursuing and organizing work which can be started here and now in the framework of existing institutions that we can lay the foundations for tomorrow's Europe."

Death of Turin editor shot by terrorists

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Nov 29

Journalism has suffered its first fatal shock in the Italian terrorist conflict with the death today of Carlo Casalegno, deputy editor of the Turin newspaper *La Stampa* — who was shot outside his home on November 16.

Apart from the personal tragedy for this highly respected journalist, the murder has gravely disturbing undertones. Responsibility has been claimed by the extreme left terrorist organization known as the Red Brigades.

They have shot other people. A public prosecutor in Genoa and Fulvio Croce, chairman of the Turin Association of Lawyers, fell victim to their bullets before Casalegno, and several journalists have been wounded.

But in the Genoa murder and the killing of Croce an immediate motive was discernible. Croce was killed three days before the trial was due to open in Turin of arrested leaders of the Red Brigades; and he was supposed to be choosing defending counsel which they had already said they would not accept. The killing was intended to place an obstacle in the way of the hearings and was successful in doing so. The wounding of journalists was presumably intended as inimidation.

But the murder of Casalegno does not fit into so rational a design. It had no known connexion with immediate events. He wrote against terrorism certainly, but so do most commentators. He was much more specific and direct in his style than most and a believer in the view that democracy was still a workable system for Italy, and the only valid one.

This may be why he died. Arguably the terrorists see democracy as the worst enemy of their ambitions and so, logically, its most balanced defenders. They see the system not only as satisfying the bourgeoisie but publicly adopted in principle now by the Communist Party as a concept of universal value.

The fear is that Casalegno's murder may have marked a fundamental change in the methods of the believers in political violence whether of the right or the left. Italians are recalling the murder by the Fascists in June, 1924, of Giacomo Matteotti, which prepared the way for dictatorship.

Tonight Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Minister of the Interior, recommended to President Leone the posthumous award to Casalegno of the Gold Medal for Civil Valour.

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Sixteen named by Herr Brandt to help him find ways to bridge gap with developing countries

Mr Heath in North-South team

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Nov 29

Mr Edward Heath was today named by Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor, among 16 world politicians and economists who will serve on his independent commission to seek ways of closing the North-South development gap.

Herr Brandt was asked to set up the commission in September on the basis of a proposal by Mr Robert McNamara, the World Bank president, to study politically acceptable ways of restructuring relations between industrial and developing countries.

The commission, which has a permanent secretariat in Geneva, will hold its first meeting at Schloss Gymnich near Bonn on December 9-11 and produce its report in about 18 months time.

Its members were picked purposely by Herr Brandt to give the majority to developing nations. They include Mr Olof Palme, the former Swedish Prime Minister, Mr Eduardo Frei, former President of Chile, M Pierre Mendes-France, former French Prime Minister, Mrs Katharine Graham, publisher of *Newsweek* and the *Washington Post*, Mr Sridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary General, and Mr Adam Malik, former Indonesian Foreign Minister and once president of the United Nations General Assembly.

Herr Brandt deliberately selected personalities who are not members of present governments so they could devote more time and energy to their task.

The 16 members will be reinforced by "a group of distinguished development politicians and internationally experienced personalities" which, he said, would include Dr Henry Kissinger, former American Secretary of State. The names of other advisers would be discussed at the first meeting, he told a press conference.

Herr Brandt pointed out that the commission has no members from communist countries: "We are not at a point when these things can be meaningfully discussed with them", he said. But experts from communist countries would be invite.I to make contributions and the final report would include their point of view.

He considered the commission represented a transition between the Pearson Commission which tackled a similar task a decade ago and had no contacts with communist representatives, and the possibility of closer cooperation in future.

Herr Brandt said he considered North-South relations to be the most important social issue for the rest of this century.

"I have no unrealistically high expectations", he said, "but I hope that the commission can present a useful and helpful report in about 18 months."

Other members of the committee are: Mr Abdaltif, al-Hamad, director general of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development; Señor Rodrico Botero Montoya, former Colombian Finance Minister: Mr Antoine Kipsa Dakoure, former Planning and Agriculture Minister of Upper Volta; Mr Amir Jamal, former Tanzanian Finance Minister; Mr Laksmi Kant Jha, Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, India; Mr Joe Morris, chairman of the International Labour Organization governing body; Mr Peter Peterson, former United States Secretary of Commerce; Mr Nobuhiko Ushiba, former Japanese Ambassador to Canada and the United States; and Mr Layachi Yaker, former Algerian Minister of Commerce.

Herr Brandt said a seventeenth member, a woman from a developing country, may be appointed later. The commission's executive secretary is Dr Göran Ohlin, Professor of Economics at Uppsala University.

Berlingske union men snub court

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen, Nov 29

Two printing union officials on trial here for intimidation during the five-month-long conflict at the *Berlingske Tidende* newspaper are refusing to speak to the court in their defence until the ombudsman has given his views on their case.

Poul Erik Hansen and Louis Schandorph, chairman and deputy chairman of the Berlingske printing union chapel, complained to the ombudsman after being refused leave to appeal to the supreme court.

They hold their case is political, warrating trial by jury, but this was not supported by the Copenhagen city court by the appeal court. A magistrare is hearing the case.

The Berlingske conflict began on January 30 after the management gave warning of staff cut? backs due to an expected £4m loss this year. There were delays in production and printing staff were ordered off the premises.

Architects and officials on trial in school fire case

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 29

Two managing directors, two architects and five civil servants are on trial in Paris in a case arising out of the death of 16 children and four adults in a school fire.

The Edouard - Pailleron School in eastern Paris, built on the British-designed Clasp system, was destroyed in less than an hour in February, 1973, after two children started a fire in a waste paper basket. The trial is to find to what extent those who were responsible for building the school were also responsible for the fact that it burnt down so quickly.

When the French recognized in 1963 that masy more schools were needed because of the post-war birth "bulge", the Clasp (Consortium of Local Authorities Programme) prefabrication system was chosen as a quick and cheap method of construction. Over the next few years 57 schools were built by the method and more than 200 others by a somewhat similar process.

French safety standards were applied to the building system and the prosecution is seeking to show that these were inadequate. Partitions made of highl y inflammable pressed wood compounds were used with the result that when the fire started the school collapsed like a pack of cards when the fire not so much burnt them as melted them.

The case centres on how responsible the architects and planners are for a building and how much blame is to be attached to the civil servant who approves safety standards and to gas board officials who are responsible for safety checks.

The nine defendants, all senior men in their field, were between them responsible for helping to meet the government requirement of a new school a week. The defence case is that they were doing no more thah the job they were asked to do.

Since the fire extensive security and fire safety measures have been carried out at all the otehr Clasp system schools in France.

The Clasp system system was used in the construction of an old people's home which burnt down in Nottingham with the loss of 18 lives in December 1974. The system has been criticized periodically in Britain

Clash of views at EEC energy conference

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Nov 29

Two contrasting views of nuclear power emerged here today at the start of three days of "open discussions" on West Europe's energy needs and supplies between now and the turn of the century. The discussions, which are being organized by the European Commission, will be followed by a second session at the end of January devoted to the safety and environmental aspects of energy.

For some speakers, the rapid development of nuclear power was essential if even relatively low economic growth rates were to be maintained. Others questioned the necessity for over-heavy reliance on nuclear power, with its known dangers, arguing that satisfactory economic growth could be maintained by resort to other energy sources.

Opening the debate, Herr Guido Brunner, the EEC Commissioner responsible for energy, urged the need for public awareness of the issues involved. Energy accounted for 10 per cent of gross national product in EEC countries. More than half of their energy needs were met by oil, 90 per cent of which had to be imported. Each percentage point rise in oil prices added $500m (about £277m) to the Community's import bill.

Earlier this year, the European Commission, under Herr Brunner's guidance, came out firmly in favour of pressing ahead with the development of nuclear fission, and in particular with the controversial fast-breeder, to reduce the EEC's dependence on outside sources of energy, and to meet what it sees as a growing shortage of oil and natural gas supplies.

A strong attack on this approach came from Professor Ignacy Sachs, director of studies at the School of Higher Studies in Social Sciences in Paris. It was a form of blackmail, he said, to suggest that the choice was between fast-breeders or energy penury.

The real choice, in his view, was between nuclear power, with its politically centralizing, even authoritarian, capital-intensive and ecologically dangerous implications, and the development of "soft" sources of energy, such as solar power.

Professor Sachs argued that annual economic growth rates of 4 per cent could be achieved without resort to fast-breeders or vast expansion of current nuclear power programmes. This could be done by more efficient use of coal, oil and gas, by locating more energy-greedy heavy industries in developing countries and by increased use of hydro-electricity and solar and geothermal power.

Herr Max Winkler, of the Association for the Protection of Nature in Bavaria, said the idea that growth could continue at the rates of the 1950s and 1960s was absurd. He calculated that to maintain 5 per cent growth over the next 500 years would require the output of more energy per kilogramme of terrestrial mass than is produced by the Sun.

The development of nuclear energy encouraged a continued belief in illusory growth possibilities, Herr Winkler added. Nuclear plants were 80 per cent more expensive than thermal power stations, required huge capital investment and took a long time to build. They were inherently inflationist in character.

From the other side of the fence, Professor Hans Schneider, of Cologne University, argued that "the speedy development of nuclear energy" was the EEC's best bet. More efficient and rational use of energy could help, but this would not by itself meet the extra energy required to maintain economic growth at a level necessary to maintain European living standards and help developing countries to raise theirs.

Professor Paul Hatry, of the Free University of Brussels, thought that solar energy might provide a partial solution to the EEC's energy problems, but scientific research was unlikely to produce anything worth developing before the year 2000. As for research into energy from the wind, the waves and the tides, this was unlikely to show any real returns for another 40 years.

Woman admits placing bomb in Madrid office

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Nov 29

A young married woman has said she set off a powerful bomb at the offices of a Madrid daily newspaper because it had accused her revolutionary organization of being sponsored by the right wing, according to reports published here today.

The woman, who was arrested on Friday and subsequently accused of terrorist activities, admitted at a news conference in the central police headquarters here yesterday that she placed the explosives which caused £171,000 worth of damage to the offices and press room of the newspaper *Diario-16* on June 26.

Acknowledging that she was a member of Grapo (First of October Antifascist Revolutionary Groups), Señora Elvira Diéguez Silveira de Muiños, aged 19, explained: "*Diario-16* said that we were managed by the CIA and that we were an extreme right-wing group, and that is not true."

Regarding the aims of Grapo, she said: "We are trying to overthrow Francoism and our arguments are still valid despite the democratic situation."

Sutton Hoo treasures for Stockholm

From Our Correspondent
Stockholm, Nov 29

Dr David Wilson, the director of the British Museum, has announced here that the archaeological treasures of Sutton Hoo would be flown to Sweden in the spring of 1980 to be displayed in the Swedish Museum's boat graves exhibition.

He said yesterday that among the numerous items lent to Sweden will be the famous helmet, shield and sword fittings which are the most characteristically Scandinavian objects found in the Sutton Hoo burial ship.

Dr Wilson emphasized that it is the first and only time the Sutton Hoo treasures will go abroad during his tenure.

"They will never leave England again so long as I am director", he told a press conference. He justified the lending by the artifacts' significant archaeological connexion with the Vikings.

He added: "We cannot allow them to go on to some sort of a rotating circus and end up in Hicksville, Ohio."

The Sutton Hoo ship burial grave, near Woodbridge, Suffolk, was excavated in 1939. It is generally considered the richest find of its period in Northern Europe.

OVERSEAS

South Korea tried to buy influence inquiry told

From David Cross
Washington, Nov 29

South Korea planned to spend $750,000 (about £420,000) in 1976 to influence American policy favourably towards it, the House of Representatives was told today.

Mr Donald Fraser, Democratic chairman of an international relations sub-committee which is investigating allegations of South Korean bribes to Congressmen, said that Seoul intended to use the money to secure the goodwill of members of Congress, journalists, scholars, religious leaders and businessmen. The sub-committee was opening two days of hearings in what has been nicknamed the "Koreagate scandal)".

Mr Fraser said that in a secret plan obtained by the committee, there was also a note indicating that additional funds would *be set aside for* congressional election campaigns.

"The action taken by the Korean Central Intelligence Agency must be recognized for what it is, outright subversion", he added.

The plan disclosed "calculated intent" by the Koreans to use clandestine means to sway American public opinion and policy, he claimed. Critics of the government were to be neutralized.

It was also disclosed today that a federal tax court judge has impounded a 1972 diary belonging to Mr Tongsun Park, a South Korean businessman suspected of channelling Korean funds to American Congressmen. The judge is investigating alleged tax debts owed by Mr Park totalling some $4,500,000.

Mr Parp, who was a rice *dealer in Washington, has been* officially charged with more than 30 counts of fraud and bribery but has understandably requested to return to America to give evidence before congressional investigators.

White House and UN accept invitations to Sadat conference

By Our Foreign Staff

The United States will attend the preparatory Middle East peace talks in Cairo called by President Sadat, it announced in Washington yesterday. The State Department said, however, it had not been decided who would go. Mr Vance, the Secre*tary of State, would* not be leading the delegation.

The meeting is at the level of experts and the United States is only the second country to accept the Egyptian leader's invitation. Israel was the first.

In New York, Dr Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, named General Ensio Siilasvuo, chief coordinator of peace-keeping operations in the Middle East, at United Nations representative to the meeting. He also proposed a further conference, at the United Nations or elsewhere, to be attended by the parties invited to Cairo, including those that have turned down Mr Sadat's invitation.

From Cairo Egypt was waging a diplomatic campaign to try to persuade more countries to attend the talks which sources said could begin as early as next Monday.

The sources said, however, the meeting might be delayed by a few days if Egypt felt there was some chance of including Jordan.

Mr Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, who arrived in Moscow on Monday night, had talks yesterday with Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Tass said the meeting took place "in a friendly atmosphere", but gave no indication whether any agreement was reached on how to proceed towards a solution of the Middle East crisis.

Mr Kaddam is the first senior Arab leader to make direct contact with Moscow since President Sadat's visit to Israel.

Syria has joined other radical Arab states in strong condemnation of Mr Sadat's journey and has rejected the Egyptian leader's invitation to Cairo.

Although the Soviet Union *has also obliquely condemned* Mr Sadat and ignored his proposal tto send representatives to Coiro, it has also indicated concern that Arab criticism of him may help harden feelings against a Geneva conference in general.

As the Libyans announced in rTipoli yesterday their summit would open as planned, Iraq dispatched envoys carrying invitations to another such gathering to three of the parties who have already agreed to go to the Libyan talks.

Iraq last night had added to disarray in the Arab world by announcing it was inviting the leaders of Syria (its chief Arab antagonist), South Yemen, Libya, Algeria, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Rejection Front.

Informed sources in Beirut said yesterday that diplomatic pressure was being exerted on the Baghadad leadership to drop its plan and go to Tripoli instead.

Focus placed on English-speaking minority

Vorster call for white unity faces test at today's election

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, Nov 29

White South Africans go to the polls tomorrow for what is expected to be the last general election under the country's present Westminster-style parliamentary system.

The outcome is not in doubt. An eve of election opinion poll estimated committed support for the ruling National Party at 64. 6per cent compared with 7 per cent for the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) which is expected to emerge as the main opposition party. The *Nationalists are confident they* will win more seats then the 116 held in the last parliament.

Predictable though the result is, the election is nevertheless significant. First, it will indicate to what extent the white populatoin, paricularly the English-speaking minority, has heeded the Government's calls to unite in the face of growing external pressures.

Opinion polls have indicated a substantial swing towards the Nationalists but ths movement may not prove as great as the party had hoped.

Second, the election will decide the future of opposition politics in the country. The emergence of the Progressives as the main opposition could lead to the virtual elimination of the centre parteis and the polarization of white politics.

Only 119 of the Assembly's 165 seats are being contested. Nationalists are being returned unopposed in 43 seats and Progressives in two seats. The *election in the Springs consti*tuency has been postponed after the murder last week of the National Party candidate, Dr Robert Smit.

Five parties are taking part in tomorrow's election whhci will also choose members to sit in the four provincial assemblies.

The National Party is nearing the end of its third decade as the Government of South Africa. It stands for separation between the various racial groups, although Coloureds and Indians will be offtred a degree of political participation under the new constitutional plan. The "strong man" image projected by its leader, Mr Vorser, is expeced o pu n a number of voers who mgh not otherwise support it.

The New Republic Party, the rump of the former United Party, *held 23 seats at the time* the election was called but is expected to shed some to both the Nationalists and the Progressive Federal Party. Mr Radclyffe Cadman, party leader, believes they will retain the support of most former United Party voters, but observers think that even he may lose his Musgrave constituency. Their answer to the country's race problem is a confederated system.

The Progressive Federal Party, a coalition between the former Progressive and Reform Parties who were joined earlier this year by six "left-wing" members of the United Party, hopes to add *several seats to the 18 it* already holds. Support comes mainly from the wealthy suburbs of Johannesburg and Cape Town.

The party favours an all-race Turnhalle-type constitutional conference to discuss the future. Its leader, Mr Colin Eglin, faces a tough three-way context in his Seapoint constituency.

The South African Party, consisting of a right-wing spinter group which left the United Party at the beginning of last year, held six seats in the last Parliamen t and is expected to lose most of them. Its policies differ only marginally from the National Party

Two seats were vacant at the time the election was called. There will be six fewer seats in the new Parliament than previously. This is because South-West Africa *(Namibia)*, which is due to become independent next year, is no longer returning members to the South African Parliament. All six South-West African seats were held by the National Party.

There are more than 2,200,000 whites eligible to vote but political analysts believe that up to one million of them may not do so. This is party bedause many regard the election as a foregone conclusion, but als o because up to 30 per cent of voters have moved since the last general registration before the 1974 election. More than half of these remain untraced.

Tempers get frayed at Biko inquest

From Our Own Correspondent
Pretoria, Nov 29

Twelve days of hearing evidence and conducting lengthy *cross-examinations* is beginning to take its toll on the legal teams at the inquest into the death of Stetve Kiko, the South African Black Consciousness leader.

Nerves and tempers are becoming frayed and the cross-examination of witnesses has taken a more aggressive note. The proceedings have got bogged down in a mass of medical detail as counsel representing the police and the doctors involved in the case go to great lengths to try and discredit the evidence of the expert medical witnesses.

In a rare show or irascibility Mr Martinus Prins, the presiding magistrate, told counsel representing the doctors, Mr B. Pirkard, to "get down to brass racks" He complained that Mr Pickard's cross-examination of Dr John Gluckman, the patholo*gist retained by the Biko family*, was going round in circles.

Earlier, questioned by Mr P. R. van Rooyen, counsel for the police, Dr Gluckman admitted that he had had "second, third and fourth thoughts" after signing the post-mortem report which showed that Mr Biko had suffered brain injury of the contra-coup type, with absence of coup lesions.

He said that although he was certain about the report's main findings he was uncertain whether there were coup injuries or not.

Dr Gluckman was ont of three signatories of the post-mortem report. The others were Professor Johan Loubser, the state pathologist, and Professor I. W. Simpson from Pretoria University.

Professor Simpson told the court he believed there had been only one application of force to Mr Biko's head, resulting in a contra-coup injury.

Mr Prins ruled this afternoon that Brigadiner C. F. Zietsman, chief of the Security Police, and his deputy, Brigadier B. J. Ceotzee, would not be called to testify as had been reqested by Mr Sydney Kentridge, counsel for the Biko family.

Mr Kentridfge had wanted to testify as to how Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Justice, came to make erroneous statements after Mr Biko's death that he had been on hunger strike while in police custody.

Ethiopians 'control Harer'

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Ethiopian forces are in complete control of the city of Marer, the key town in the Ogaden region, according to the Ethiopian Embassy in London.

Press reports that the Somalie had captured Harer were "false and ridiculous", the embassy said yesterday. Somali troops had never set foot in the city and were now being driven off beyond the town of Babile, 30 miles away. The embassy also denied that Cuban troops were fighting for the regime.

Nominee for FBI chief withdraws

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington Nov 29

Mr Frank Johnson, a federal judge in Alabama, has withdrawn as nominee for the directorship of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, for reasons of health.

When he was nominated for the post by President Carter last summer, he had a routine *check up. The doctors disco*vered that he had a dangerous condition—a ballooned artery—that required an immediate operation. His recovery has been slower than he hoped and today be asked the Attorney-General to withdraw the nomination.

The Attorney-General will now have to submit other names to the President for the job.

Carter tour to go on despite energy Bill

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Nov 29

President Carter has decided to go ahead with his foreign tour at the end of next month, whether the energy Bill has passed Congress by then or not. Mr Thomas O'Oneill, Speaker of the House, said this morning that Mr Carter had made the statement during a breakfast meeting with congressional leaders at the White House.

The President originally intended to leave a week ago. He postponed the trip because of continuing legislative difficulties over the energy Bill. He said he intended to spend the time lobbying for the Bill, which is making slow progress through a joint committee of the two Houses.

This gesture lost much of its force, however, when Congress went on vacation for 10 days over Thanksgiving (from November 18-28), the very time that *Mr Carter* intended to devite to his lobbying efforts.

The President will leave Washington on December 28, according to Mr O'Neill. He will visit Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, India, Iran, France, Poland and Belgium. The original trip would have started with visits to Venezuela and Brazil. Those two countries got Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State instead.

Korchnoi keeps chess lead over Spassky

Belgrade, Nov 28.—With two wins and two draws Viktor Korchnoi now leads 3—1 in his chess match against Boris Spassky to find a challenger to Anatoly Karpov, the world champion.

Spassky forced a draw by repetition of moves in the fourth game last night after Korchnoi had earlier sacrificed a piece. These were the moves of the game:

	Spassky white. French	Korchnoi black defence
1.	P-K4	P-K3
2.	P-Q4	P-Q4
3.	Kt-QB3	B-Kt5
4.	P-K5	P-QB4
5.	P-QR3	BxKt5
6.	PxB	Kt-K2
7.	P-Q,4	B-Q2
8.	Kt-B3	Q-R4
9.	B-Q2	QKt-B3
10.	B-K2	P-B5
11.	P-B4	Q-B2
12.	KPxP	KtPxP
13.	BPxP	KKtxP
14.	P-B3	0-0-0
15.	0-0	KR-Kt1
16.	R-K1	P-K4
17.	P-B4	B-R6
18.	KB-B1	Kt-Kt5
19.	P-Q5	KtxBP
20.	PxKt	QxP
21.	P-Kt3	BxB
22.	RxB	P-K5
23.	Q-Kt3	Q-Q4
24.	QR-B1	KtxB
25.	KtxKt	QxKt
26.	RxPch	K-Kt1
27.	R-Kt1	R-Kt2
28.	R-QKt5	R(1)-Q2
29.	Q-K6	P-K6
30.	PxP	R(Kt2)-K2
31.	Q-Kt8ch	R-Q1
32.	Q-Kt3	R(1)-Q2
33.	Q-Kt8ch	R-Q1
34.	Q-Kt3	Draw.—UPI.

Commuters stranded

Tokyo, Nov 29.—A strike over bonuses halted Tokyo's bus and underground train services for five hours this morning, leaving up to 700,000 com-

Mob vengeance

Belem, Brazil, Nov 29.—A foreman who shot dead a worker for questioning his pay was killed by a mob in Maracana, near here.

UN turns its attention to visitors from outer space

Continued from page 1

To help the process along, he quoted large chunks of the speeches. Then he quoted from speeches on the same subject made in 1971 by the representative of a nation whose identity we might have guessed: Uganda. (What is it about UFOs that makes them attractive to rulers with a dictatorial bent?)

All these quotations made the going heavy. Before Mr Friday was 10 minutes into his speech I noticed one representative nodding off. Twenty minutes later he had recovered, but many others were succumbing.

Mr Friday insisted several times, defensively I thought, that UFO's were no laughing matter. Mr Gairy had seen one and so, he claimed, had President Carter. Yet previous efforts—which he documented in detail—by the Intercontinental UFO Galactic Spacecraft Research and Analytical Network to have the United Nations take an interest in the subject had been thwarted.

"Earth may not be the only place inhabited by intelligent beings", he pointed out, and some delegates' smiles indicated that they were beginning to odubt a main premise of that observation. What was important, he continued, was to regulate contact between men from Earth and men from outer space, and the United Nations was the appropriate body for taking on that responsibility.

By now the representative of Panama and his neighbour from Papua New Guinea were giggling over some photographs in the paperback book they had been given.

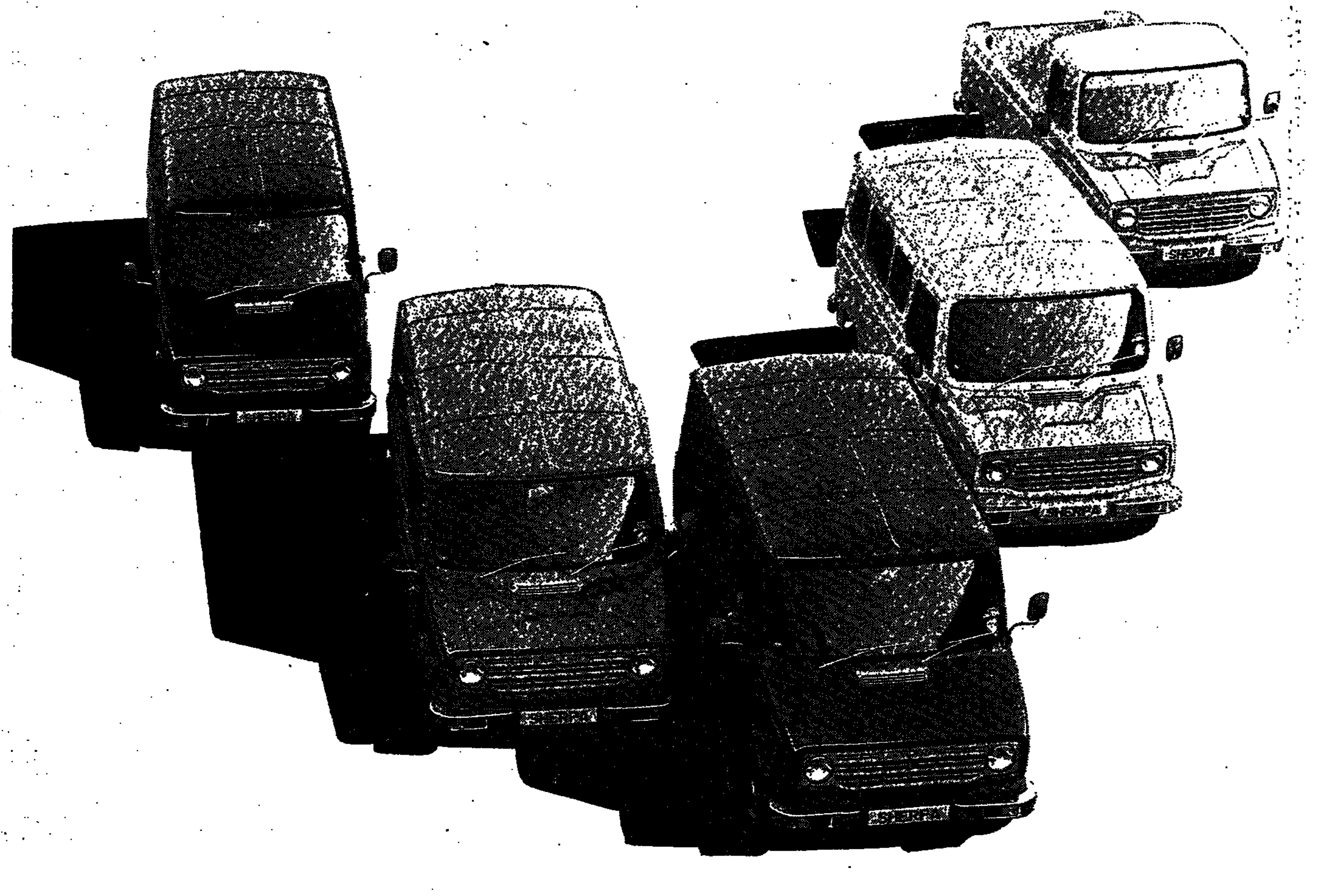
Mr Friday, who had already been *talking for over* an hour, was goinging into ever more alarming details of actual encounters with beings from alien worlds. They had, he said, been neither particularly friendly nor particularly hostile, but they had abducted a few earthlings, probably for the purposes of research.

The trouble was that "an amorphous veil of secrecy" had been placed over reports of these worrying events. That was what the United Nations had to change.

After an hour and a half he sat down. *The Barbados dele*gate, clearly impressed, moved that verbatim copies of the statement by Mr Friday and Mr Gairy be supplied to delegates.

The chairman agreed to the extra expense and added that, as delegates would need time to digest *the information pro*vided, discussio non the subject would be put off until Wednesday. Today the committee is reverting to an earlier unfinished debate about Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

This *inspired one delegate*, effecting concern at a possible shift in the world body's balance of power, to make a sort of joke as he left the chamber. "What happens," he said, rubbing his eyes in wonderment, "if the men from space turn *out to be Jewish?*"



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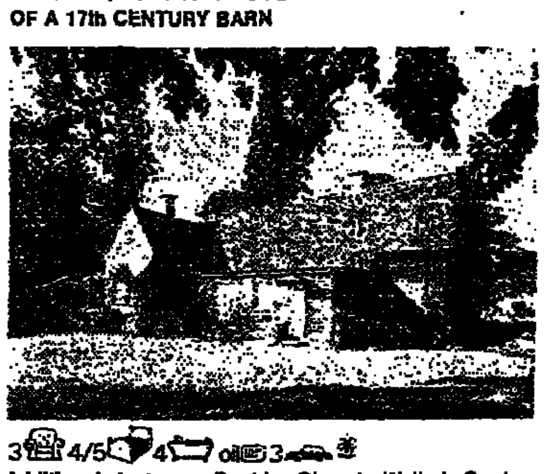

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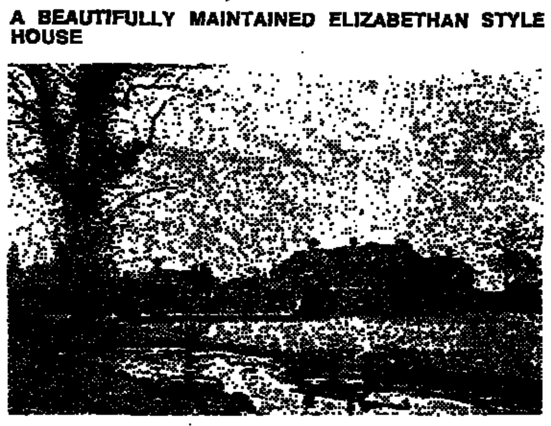

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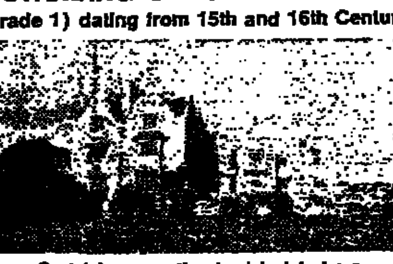

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OVERSEAS

Pathan leader accuses Mr Bhutto of treason during first public appearance after years in prison

From Richard Wigg
Karachi, Nov 29

Mr Abdul wali Khan, Pakistan's best know political prisoner, had his hour of crowded life here in the Sind High Court today when he appeared for the first time after almost three years behind bars before a regular court of law.

As grim-faced Pathans from North-West Frontier Proinvce, whose redoubtable "chief" he still is, packed every inch of the courtroom and showered him with rose petals, Mr Khan, a leonine figure in his sixties with silver locks, turned the tables on Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, attacking him for playing an allegedly treasonous role in the break-up of Pakistan in the 1971 war, from which Bangladesh emerged.

Mr Bhutto, who is now in Lahore Jail, put the then leader of the opposition in prison in February, 1975, and he has been there ever since. Mr Khan and his National Awami Party, after banning, were accused of seeking the break-up of Pakistan through separatism.

A special tribunal was established in Hyderabad before which Mr Khan and 54 others were arraigned. The case still drags on, despite Mr Bhutto's fall from power after the military takeover on July 5.

"I know th3 whole inside story," Mr Khan said in court today, referring to Mr Bhutto's alleged role behind the scenes in East Pakistan's breakaway afrr Shaikh Mujibur Rahman had won the national elections.

"I mtt Mr Bhutto, President Yahya Khan, and Shaikh Mujib. To rule, he had to split the country. I know Bhutto was responsible, for otherwise he would have had to come to an understanding with Shaikh Mujib or go into opposition."

He alleged that Mr Bhutto had subseuencly offered him high posts, including the presidency, to buy him off.

Mr Khan ridiculed the procedures of the Hyswrabad tribunal; after 19 monthe it had still heard only 23 out of the 426 witnesses listed. "It would take another 200 to 250 years at that rate to get hrough our cases,"—he declared, accusing he special judges of being in league with the Government in Islamabad in adopting dilatory tactics.

Mr Justice Agha Ali Hyder, Sind's acting Chief Justice, adjourned today's hearing until December 18 after Mr Sharifuddin Pirzada, attorney general in the interim Government of General Zia, had rejected Mr Khan's submission that various orders by the tribunal against the accused were illegal.

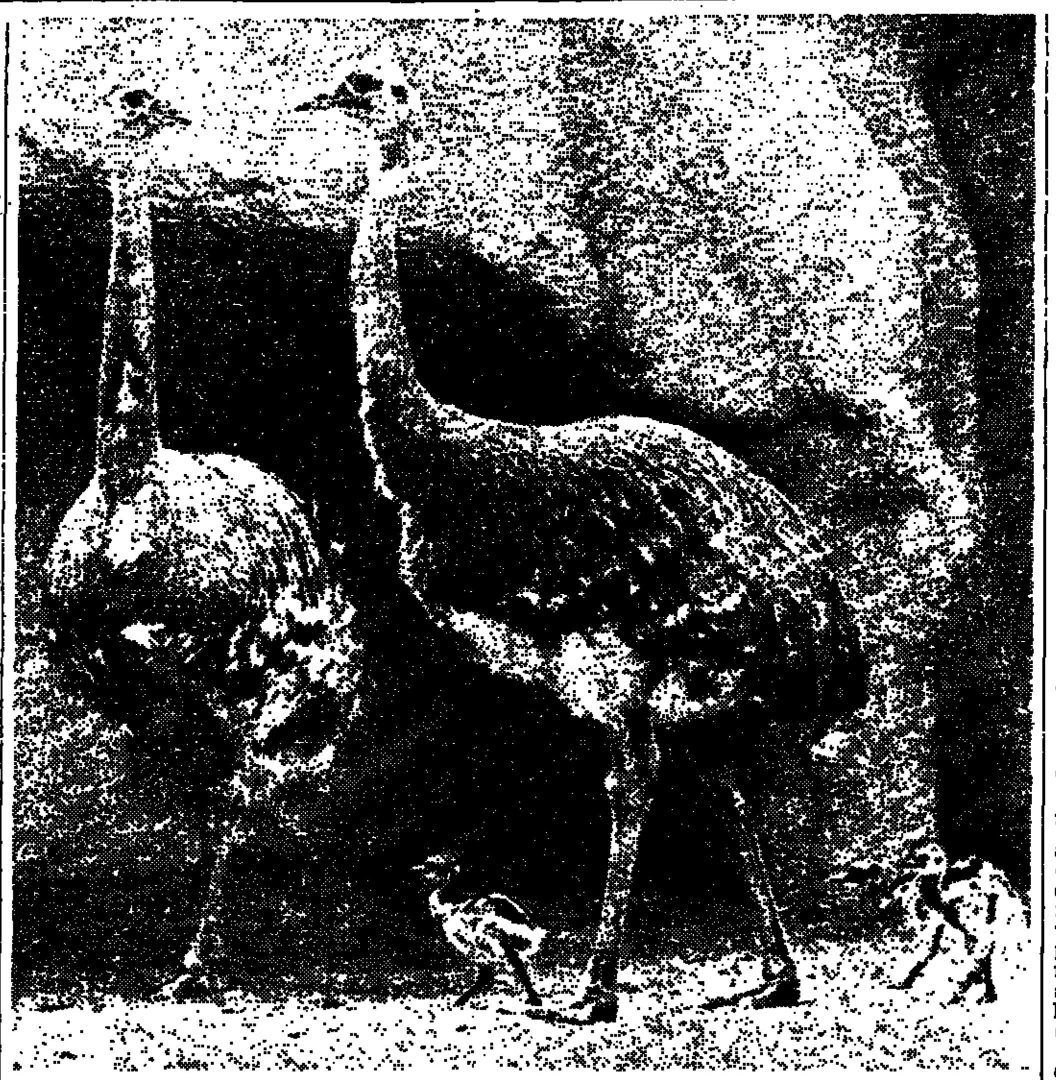
The High Court will also consider a second petition moved today by the accused which challenges the legality of the Hyderbad tribunal and its procedures which, they contend, allow the state to be judge in its own cause.

"Any trial behind bars is not a trial at all", Mr Khan told the High Court, referring to the special tribunal's hearings conducted in Hyderabad Central Jail. He has spent a great part of his adult life as a political prisoner.

During a recess, while a well-known Urdu poet grabbed a microphone, to serenade Mr Khan with verses, I asked him whether he expected to take part in the general election that Pakistan's chief martial law administrator promises for some time next year. "I can't say", he replied. "There is still the ordinance passed just before Mr Bhutto dissolved the National Assembly for the March general election which bans me for five years."

Leaders of the National Alliance are to meet General Zia soon tp press again for ending the Hyderabad trial and transferring the case to normal courts. They speak of a promise given them on which General Zia appears to be going slow. But since Mr Bhutto has not been put on trial before a special tribunal, the road would seem open.

There is, however, aslo the Shah of Iran, whose Tovernment has come powerfully to Pakistan's financial aid. In a recent interview, the Shah indicated that he strongly opposes those who think like the North-West Frontier Province leaders or those in neighbouring Baluchistan. By lunchtime, having said goodbye to the Begum, Mr Khan was back in jail.



Proud parents: A family stroll at the San Diego Zoo in southern California for five Darwin's Rheas, a rare species of flightless bird from the pampas of South America which is threatened with extinction. The male alone incubates the eggs, and it is the first known occasion on which a captive male has completed the hatching process.

Christian Democrats speak out in Chile

From Florencia Varas
Santiago, Nov 29.

There are signs of a break in the silence that has been imposed by the military junta on all political activity in Chile. Several recent incidents are being taken to mean that, after four years of President Pinochet's rule people are losing their fear and expressing their discontent.

One of these was a strike this month at the El Teniente copper mine, the first since the military takeover. The government censored the word "strike" and described it as "Work absenteeism".

Some workers were dismissed and politicians were accused of instigating the first serious conflict between the Government and the mine workers, who generate a substantial part of the country's foreign currency earnings.

Another incident was a demonstration outside the Foreign Ministry of Foreign Affairs on November 16 when Mr George Landau, the newly-aapointed American Ambassador, was presenting his letters of credence. Nearly 100 people, mostly women who were either wives or relatives of missing people, carried signs with photographs of those who had disappeared. Others called for the liberation of political detainees.

The Government has declared that there are no political prisoners in Chile and that no one is missing. It maintains that the people supposedly missing have gone into hiding, have died abroad or have a double set of identity documents.

There have also been reactions to the four-day hunger strike in Venezuela earlier this month by Senor Jaime Castillo Velasco, formerly vice-president of the Christian Democratic Party in Chile and Minister of Justice under President Frei.

In a demonstration after Mass otuside the San Francisco Church in Santiago on the third day of his fast, nearly 2,000 people shouted political slogans such as "Chile is and will remain a country of freedom". Inside the church five university students fasted in solidarity with Senor Castillo for four days.

On November 25 the Government banned the publication of all news about the arrest of seven union leaders and their exile to the north of the country.

Senor Castillo, a lawyer, who was expelled from Chile in August, 1976, showed with his hungr strike that he will not give up in this efforts to return to Chile in spite of the failure of two appeals channelled through the Chilean Judicial system.

Senor Castillo was put on an aircraft together with Snor Eugenio Velasco, another lawyer, after they had sent a letter to the Organization of American States, reporing on violations of human rights, at the time when the OAS was in session in Santiago.

Christian Democratic leaders have told me that recent events in Chile have been "a call to action to the country to stand up for their rights as citizens, to support the efforts aimed at restoring democracy, and to strive to have all Chileans reconciled".

A document entitled "A Country for All", signed by the Christian Democratic Party and issued as a message to all Chileans, states the pressing need to introduce changes
need to introduce changes in the military Government and a speedy restoration of democracy which, according to the document, was not only the desire of those who were on the militant left but also of most of those who supported the military coup.

Canadian public rallies to support of the Mounties

From John Best
Ottawa, Nov 29

The security branch of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is being placed under tighter control in response to recent disclosures that it exceeded the limits of the law in a variety of operations.

The announcement of the stiffened controls, which was made by Mr Francis Fox, the Solicitor-General, last week, helped to defuse an issue that had been dominating the Commons for weeks.

During that time the Government was under constant critical questioning by opposition MPs who contended that the security branch had got out of control. New disclosures about over-zealous police work came almost daily, in the House or in the press. The Mounties were accused of burglary, arson, and tampering with the mail among other transgressions.

The public, however, refused to get worked up against the Mounties. The attitude seemed to be that, if the police must bend he law to protect the security of the state, they should be given the benefit of the doubt.

The Government, led by Mr Trudeau, played on the abiding affection, bordering on adulation, in which the majority of Canadians obviously still held the Mounties.

Referring to the arrest and deportation of a Japanese Red Army terrorist, which was made possible by a mail interception, the Prime Minister told a press conference: "When you catch a terrorist because you have opened an envelope, I do not think the bulk of the Canadian people would think that, even if it was technically a crime, it would be something that should bring the RCMP people to jail."

Opposition MPs became worried about a popular backlash against their relentless campaign to expose wrong-doing. They started going out of their way to make clear, in asking critical questions of the Liberal Government, that they were not attacking the police force but the Government itself. Whether the Canadian public understood or accepted the distinction still is not clear.

Mr Fox's announcement therefore had the unintended side-effect of helping to get the Opposition, especially Conservatives, off a hook. Already the debate, or what is left of it, has shifted to the Commons justice committee: a sure sign that the steam has gone out of the controversy.

Mr Fox said three immediate steps would be taken "to address problems of the past which have recently been disclosed and to ensure appropriate control in the future".

All new operational policy of the security service would be subject to prior approval by a committee consisting of Mr R. H. Simmonds, the RCMP Commissioner, the deputy commissioners, and the director-general of the security service. An existing committee which assesses operational projects would be strengthened by the addition of two members.

An operational audit unit was being formed, he said, "with authority to examine all security service operations on an ongoing basis". It would report to the Commissioner, who would provide regular audit reports to the Solicitor General.

India turns down Pakistan offer of disaster relief

From Our Correspondent
Delhi, Nov 29

India has declined the assistance offered by Pakistan and Bangladesh for the Andhra Pradesh cyclone victims. Pakistan had told Delhi it was willing to offer anything it needed and Bangladesh offered the services of 150 doctors.

The Ministry of External Affairs has established a special unit to coordinate all offers of foreign assistance. Missions abroad have been informed that India does not want foreign assistance, but would accept "routine offers".

Delhi, Nov 29.—Mr Chandra Sekhar, president of the ruling Janata Party, says he is not satisfied with the pace of relief work, it was reported here

He accused the state government of trying to minimize the gravity of the situation.—Reuter.

Australian dockers shout abuse at refugees

From Our Correspondent
Melvourne, Nov. 29

As 180 Vietnamese refugees arrived in Darwin today, on board a hijacked trawler, two givernment ministers urged that their arrival should not be allowed to develop into an election issue.

Mr Andrew Peacock, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr Michael MacKellar, the Immigration Minister, declared: "The basic question of human suffering involved transcends partisan advantage in an election context. In terms of recent history Australia has particular responsibility to these people."

The joint statement said Australia's status in South-East Asia would be seriously damaged if the Cietnamese were made into an election issue.

Urgent consideration was being given to the surveillance needed to prevent unauthorised entry and to maintain quarantine standards. "But this Government will not "make examples" of boat refugees by indiscrinately turning some of them back.

"our controls are designed to prevent entry of people falsely posing as refugees. But we will not risk taking action against genuine refugees just to get a message across. This could be an utterly inhuman course of action."

When the Vietnamest arrived in Darwin, local dock-workers immediately stopped work in protest. They shouted insults at th e refugees.

Mr Douglas Anthony, the Deputy Prime Minister, said today that only genzine refugees would be allowed to stay in Australia, not Vietnamese merely wishing to emigrate. Today's boat was the ninth to arrive in Darwin in the past five days.

Bernard Levin, page 16

Mr Whitlam predicts Labour poll victory

Sydney, Nov 29.—Mr Gough Whitlam, the Australian Opposition leader, whose Labour Party suffered a crushing election defeat two years ago, today predicted that it would win next month's general election comfortably.

Buoyed by opinion polls which have put Labour ahead of Mr Fraser's ruling coalition, he spoke confidently of achieving a remarkable comeback two years after being dismissed from office.

He admitted that he had made mistakes during his three years as Prime Minister from 1972 to 1975 bpt vowed: "We'll be better next time".

Midway through the three-week election campaign today, all polls and almost every political commentator continued to forecast a narrow Labour victory in the December 10 election.—Reuter.

Amazon water sharing plan

Rio de Janeiro, Nov 29.—Eight South American nations led by Brazil have begun talks aimed at reaching an agreement for the joint development of the Amazon river basin through a treaty that would permit the harnessing of its water resources.

The proposed treaty has been discussed quietly for nearly a year by the foreign ministries of the eight countries, whose territories border the Amazon region. But suspicion over the motives of Brazil which first proposed the idea, delayed the start of concrete talks until yesterday.

Besides Brazil, the countries attending the conference are Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Surinam and Venezuela.

The draft treaty under discussion proposes to allow the development of water resources in the Amazon system by any nation as long as no harm occurs in a neighbouring nation into which any of the Amazon basin rivers flow.

It further proposes to protect the ecology of the Amazon, to exempt from taxes products in border regions and to promote the global integration of the area.—New York Times News Service.

Teng protégé given key public security portfolio

Peking, Nov 29.—China's new Minister of Public Security is Mr Chao Tsang-pi, although his appointment, made several months ago, has not yet been officially announced, Chinese sources said.

The public security portfolio, which includes files on virtually everyone in China, had been held officially since January, 1975, by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng.

Diplomatic sources said Mr Chao was from the province of Szechwan and was believed to be close to Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, the Deputy Prime Minister, who is also from Szechwan. They said his appointment appeared to be a further indication of Mr Teng's control at the centre of power.

Little information was available about Mr Chao, who was elected a full member of the Communist Party's Central Committee at the party congress last August.

Meanwhile, the New China news agency today carried a lengthy article from the People's Daily, accusing the purged "gang of four" of having "tried to use public security departments as a tool to exercise fascist dictatorship over leading cadres (officials) of the party, Government and Army".Reuter.

Peronists appeal to junta for speedier justice

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, Nov 29

Seven prominent Peronists have appealed to Argentina's military junta to speed up legal proceedings against people arrested since the military coup and to free those not considered threats to state security. They also urged the Government not to indulge in political persecution under the guise of criminal proceedings.

The seven Peronists form a rump of the movement's former right wing and centre. They range from Señor Manuel de Anchorena, the extreme right wing former Ambassador to Britain, to Señor Angel Robledo and Señor Italo Luder, relatively centrist politicians who held high posts under the Peronist Government.

Their appeal, handed in last week, was the first Peronist document addressed to the junta to have become public knowledge since the coup in March last year.

It said: "While economic oppressions bring anguish and uncertainty to vast sections of the population, and juridical insecurity causes equal anguish, it will be very difficult to create conditions which will generate peace." it said.

Harrier crashes

Washington, Nov 29.—A British-built United States Marine Corps Harrier fighter crashed today, the twenty-seventh of the "jump jets" to do so since their purchase seven years ago. The pilot escaped with bruises.

Moroccan pardon

Rabat, Nov 29.—The Moroccan Government has pardoned 38 political prisoners, some of whom had been jailed for plotting to overthrow the monarchy and instal a Marxist regime, the Justice Ministry said today.

PARLIAMENT, November 29, 1977

Search for a method by which Government can underwrite long-term formula for firemen

House of Commons

Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said he had indicated to the Fire Brigades Union this morning that he would try to see if the Government could underwrite a long-term agreement or formula if one were made. But the Government could not depart from the 10 per cent guidelines.

Mr William Molloy (Ealing, North, Lab) had asked the Prime Minister to discuss with the CBI and TUC the effect on wage negotiations and price stabilization of the considerable improvement in the economy—(Conservative laughter)—which was bound to cause irritation to the Conservative Party in their anti-British campaign.

Mr Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab)—I constantly point out to trade union conferences and in my meetings with trade unions what is happening with inflation. The decrease in the rate is of profound significance in preserving our competitiveness, in preserving jobs and raising the standard of life.

That, combined with the tax reductions now working through, together with the prospects for real growth next year, which are significantly better than for some years, should lead to moderation in wage claims and wage settlements.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C)—When can we have a statement about the unprecedented losses of the British Steel Corporation, reported to amount to £500m a year?

Mr Callaghan—I answered questions on that last week. But the Government and the Secretary of State for Industry (Mr Eric Varley) have started discussions on these matters. When they are concluded, a report will be made to the House.

Mrs Thatcher—Can we have an assurance that it is not part of his strategy to use the revenues from North Sea oil to keep going wealth-consuming jobs rather than to allow the revenues to be used to generate wealth-creating jobs?

Mr Callaghan—As a general proposition that is unacceptable, but I take it she is not suggesting that because of the world recession we should allow the British steel industry to collapse.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L)—In future meetings with the TUC and CBI will he continue to stress the importance of the 10 per cent guidelines? Did he maintain that in his meeting with the Fire Brigades Union this morning? If so, what sort of response did he get?

Mr Callaghan—I do not wish to go into detail of my discussions with that union this morning. I have set out fully my view there and I think they understand the position the Government are in.

The firemen have a substantial case for determining a long-term formula which will fix their position.

I have indicated this to them and I have tried to indicate to them that I would try to see if we could underwrite such a long-term agreement if it were made, in some way.

But it is not possible for the Government, in view of present circumstances, to depart from the 10 per cent guidelines.

We are not fighting the firemen. I am fighting for the overall objective of keeping down inflation and keeping jobs up.

Mrs Barbara Castle (Blackburn, Lab)—Will he guarantee that the Government will underwrite the firemen's long-term formula to the same extent as they have undertaken to underwrite the findings of the independent inquiry into the police?

Mr Callaghan—No undertakings have been given on either account and I prefer not to be pressed on that matter when negotiations are to be conducted.

Mr James Prior, chief Opposition spokesman on employment (Lowestoft, C)—When he next meets Jack Jones and the TUC, is he going to tell Mr Jones and the Transport and General Workers' Union what sanctions he (Mr Callaghan) thinks the Government should apply to them for giving themselves more than a 10 per cent increase?

Mr Callaghan—I am not acquainted with what he is referring to. If he puts down a question to the Secretary of State for Employment (Mr Albert Booth) he will get an adequate reply.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn (Kinross and West Perthshire, C)—Does he recall that in the counter-inflation statement he made on July 20, in which we were to enter into a consensus society under his Government, I asked him what would happen if one party did not consent? Would his Government confront or surrender? He said: "Neither." Did he mean both?

Mr Callaghan—No. As usual, I meant what I said, and we are not in confrontation at the moment. Certainly the firemen do not think that. They recognize very well the dilemma in which the country is plunged at present when there is a great deal of sympathy for the firemen's case, but on the other hand an understanding that in a structured wage system such as we have, that what is given to one goes through the whole system. That cannot be permitted.

Curriculum review: NUT action regretted

Regret that the National Union of Teachers had been reluctant to cooperate fully in the curriculum review was expressed by Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science. She was commenting on the circular, issued today (Tuesday), asking local authorities to report on curricular arrangements in their areas.

Mr Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton, C)—Having issued her circular will Mrs Williams do everything she can to persuade the NUT to reconsider the rather negative attitude and advice they have given to their members on responding to this circular?

What is her response to the idea that there might be a natural break at the age of 14 before which there should be adherence to a fairly common curriculum and after which there was need for a more diverse prescription?

Mrs Williams—I regret the NUT has been reluctant to cooperate fully in the curriculum review although we have had long consultations with them and other teacher organizations.

On reflection, when they appreciate there is no wish on the part of the Department of Education and Science to take over central control of the curriculum but rather to draw attention to matters of national concern in education, many of which have been pointed to by Select Committes of the House, I hope they will reconsider their attitude.

On the second part of his question, my own view is that we specialize rather too early in English and Welsh schools.

Although I would not wish to say that 14 is a natural break point, I am sure we should maintain science for those studying arts and arts for those studying science to a later stage than many schools do at present.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab)—The question of the curriculum is one which teachers will not easily give over to the hands of other people. Therefore it is not a bad thing that they should be worried about this.

It is always a good thing in education not to make rapid changes. (Conservative laughter.) There are some people who would never make any changes at all, the Conservatives, for instance. People will discuss a thing such as this at great length before they come to a decision.

Mrs Williams—I understand that point about the general concern of teachers for their own professional role. I hope he will assure the NUT, of which he is a prominent member, that there is no intention on my part to try to take central control of the curriculum.

I hope he and other Labour MPs will appreciate that matters like multiracial education, no sex discrimination in schools, the extraordinary profusion of mathematical syllabuses of which there are now over 40, are of genuine concern to the House and it is not illegitimate for us to draw this concern to the attention of education authorities.

Concern that Scottish Assembly would repeal Acts passed by Commons: need to avoid conflict

An amendment which, it was stated, was intended to make clear beyond a peradventure, what the Government had maintained—that there was nothing in fact or in constitutional doctrine which would imperil the supreme authority of the Westminster Parliament, was moved by Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) when the committee stage of the Scotland Bill was resumed.

He said that if the Scottish Assembly was to have power, as Clause 18, to which the amendment was applied, maintained, to repeal Acts of Parliament—only within the area of its own competence—it must be regarded as a parallel and in some cases a rival, to the Commons.

That could not be gainsaid because, under the Bill, the Scottish Assembly could pass an Act and Westminster could reverse it.

Then the Assembly could repeal the Act reversing the Assembly's original decision. He was advised that that was precisely the position.

The Scottish Assembly passes a Bill within the area of its competence (he said) and this House advised by the Secretary of State or a committee of the judicial committee of the Privy Council, concludes that the Bill, for various reasons of national policy, should not stand, and passes an Act which overcomes the Scottish Bill. But there is nothing in this Bill to prevent the Scottish Assembly then, using these powers, to repeal that Act.

That illustrated the absurdity of creating a rival authority capable of repealing the Acts of the Commons which had been used to illegitimize the Acts of a Scottish Assembly.

It could not be right to create a position where either assembly was in the position of repealing the Acts of the other.

Mr John Smith, Minister of State, Privy Council Office (North Lanarkshire, Lab), said that before Mr Griffiths impinged himself too firmly on the horns of an imaginary dilemma he should know that the Commons could entrench such a provision.

Mr Griffiths—That is what my amendments do.

Mr Smith indicated dissent.

Mr Griffiths said that unless the amendments were included, the supreme authority of Westminster would be in doubt.

Under the procedures of the Bill Scotland, at a stroke, would be converted to a single-chamber system of government. There would be no procedure to iron out faults in its Bills. Almost by a sleight of hand they would be removing for all time the functions of the House of Lords from the wide areas that the assembly would be responsible for.

If the amendments were not accepted, the Scottish Assembly would have retrospective powers to reach back into the past and change fundamental Acts of Parliament such as the Zetland County Council Act. That could not be right.

In the future, the assembly would be able to amend or repeal Acts of Parliament within the area of its competence. It surely ought to be within the supreme power of the British Parliament having taken a decision to extend that decision to Scotland.

Mr Tam Dalyell (West Lothian, Lab) said that the grievances, real or imaginary, of the people of Scotland were seldom related to the shortage of laws and too little legislation. On the contrary, he was sure that electors in West Lothian, of all parties, were convinced that there were too many laws and certainly not too few, and yet here were MPs solemnly passing laws to set up a subordinate Parliament which would be churning out yet more laws.

It was obvious what would happen. The assembly, to fill up time, would grapple with local government, hospital boards, universities and anybody else, or it would spend time squabbling with London. That would be an increasingly sour and uneasy relationship.

People like himself were the best developers. They believed in local government, and the regions were more local than an assembly at Edinburgh. To claim that an assembly at Edinburgh would bring the Government closer to the people was sheer cant.

The main task of mongrel MPs at Westminster in the eyes of many people would be to extract cash from the Treasury in England for the assembly. That would be their major responsibility. It was a situation which could not possibly endure. It was not possible to have a subordinate Parliament in part of a unitary state.

Mr Leon Brittan, an Opposition spokesman on devolution (Cleveland and Whitby, C) said the amendments raised profound matters at the centre of the Government's scheme or devolution, but the matters could be dealt with most effectively by a later amendment.

Dr Maurice Miller (East Kilbride, Lab) said the Scottish Grand Committee was not a legislative committee. It played its part in legislation but it was wrong to give the impression it could initiate, go through and conclude any piece of legislation. Legislation had to come to the House and be discussed at report stage and third reading.

It was right that the Scottish Assembly must have law-making powers, otherwise there would be little point in having an assembly. If it was agreed there should be an assembly, it would be meaningless, an impotent instrument, if it were not given power to make laws.

The limitations of its powers in this respect had been clearly defined. A balance had been reasonably struck in the way the Government had defined the limits and restrictions within which the assembly would have the power and authority to make laws.

Mr Gordon Wilson (Dundee, East, Scot Nat) said it must be within the knowledge of MPs that the present structure of local government in Scotland was imposed against the wishes of the then Opposition by an English Conservative majority. It was exactly that sort of reform of local government which was giving rise to some concern at present.

The amendments were intended to smother the proper legislative competence of the Scottish Assembly. If they were to set up an assembly, as decided on second reading of the Bill, they must allow the Scottish Assembly reasonable freedom in which to work.

Mr Iain Sproat (Aberdeen, South, C) said the Bill's opponents believed that it was a step down the slippery slope to separatism. If a Scottish Assembly were set up any SNP member of it would seize every possible opportunity to stir up the maximum amount of discord between the assembly and the House.

The House was offering a positive incitement to constitutional conflict. It was not something that might arise by chance but something that was bound to arise because it was the raison d'être of the SNP to cause it to arise. The Bill was giving them the weapon they wanted for that, which was why they were so consistently in favour of it.

Mr William Benyon (Buckingham, C) said the most abrasive issue which would divide a future Scottish Parliament and the Westminster Parliament would be the block grant. There would be every inducement to pass legislation which was at variance with what would be required in assessing the block grant as a whole by a United Kingdom Parliament.

It must be right in this instance to retain the power of approval of the House. Otherwise the supreme authority would be rendered nonsense and it would be dangerous nonsense at that.

Mr John Smith, Minister of State, Privy Council Office, said that when the Scottish Assembly came into existence it would inherit a complex of legislation built up over the years by the United Kingdom Parliament. It would be odd if the assembly were not given the power to repeal provisions of Acts of Parliament within the devolved sphere.

The problem of repeal could easily be dealt with. It was always open to the United Kingdom Parliament to provide in an Act passed at Westminster that it could not be repealed by the assembly.

If there was to be devolution they must provide proper powers for the Scottish Assembly which would need legislative competence. The amendment attempted to hamper this in such a way that it would not operate effectively.

The amendment was rejected by 159 votes to 69—Government majority, 120.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Progress in committee on Scotland Bill. Motion on EEC document on architects' qualifications.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Debate on fire precautions in small hotels and old people's homes. Debate on links between EEC and China.

Impact on education of grant settlement

Under the rate support grant settlement, there would be 11,300 more teaching posts than there would have been if the grant had not been altered, Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said during questions.

Mr Michael Ward (Peterborough, Lab) had asked her to say something about the general effect of the rate support grant on teacher employment across the country.

Mrs Williams—If teacher numbers were to follow the school population, which will fall by more than 100,000 between 1977-78 and 1978-79, there would be a reduction overall of 3,700 teaching posts.

What we have done is to make provision for an additional 1,000 teachers in deprived areas, an additional 1,800 teachers to allow the induction year to start, an additional 1,700 teachers to allow in-service training, and an additional 6,800 to allow an operating margin in the light of falling numbers.

Sir David Renton (Huntingdonshire, C) asked if Mrs Williams was aware that the Cambridgeshire education authority had had to make cuts in its educational services because of lack of rate support grant.

He asked what steps she proposed to take to help the authority to overcome this problem in the current financial year, and to give an undertaking that adequate funds would be made available for improving educational services in the coming financial year.

Mrs Williams—The rate support grant settlement for 1978-79 offers some measure of protection to local authorities like Cambridgeshire, who lost gran in 1977-78. I understand that the authorities' share of the grant next year are differing only fractionally from the 1977-78 share in details of settlement.

Sir D. Renton—The situation in Cambridgeshire is most unsatisfactory. In the coming financial year, following severe cuts and rate increases in this financial year, further cuts will have to be made in the educational service in spite of a 20 per cent increase in rates. Is she satisfied with that kind of educational provision in Cambridgeshire?

Mrs Williams—I am not satisfied. Cambridgeshire made proposals for a cut in the educational budget of £1,750,000 in the coming year before they knew the result of the rate support grant settlement.

My understanding is that their decisions were provisional and since the difference is at most fractional, it is up to the authority now to reconsider what were drastic proposals.

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L)—In view of the powers of the Secretary of State for Environment (Mr Shore) in distributing the rate support grant, does she feel her department has sufficient powers to ensure adequate educational standards for the children of Cambridgeshire?

Mrs Williams—One of the matters I am most concerned about is the absence of any specific powers to make certain that rate support grant is spent for education, when it is allocated for education. This means that everything I say to the House about the rate support grant settlement depends on whether local authorities spend the money made available for that purpose.

New member

Mr David Atkinson, who retained Bournemouth, East, for the Conservatives in the by-election last Thursday, took his seat.

Councils taking up fewer private school places

Creaming off a substantial section of pupils to independent schools was not compatible with good comprehensive education, Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said at question time.

Mr Anthony Durant (Reading, North, C) had asked her for a statement on her policy in relation to the placement by local education authorities of children in schools in the private sector of education.

Mrs Williams (Hertford and Stevenage, Lab)—The Government are committed to reducing local education authority take-up of places of non-maintained schools to the minimum required in the light of the criteria set out in my department's circular 6/77 and I expect a substantial drop in the number of places over the next few years.

In 1976-77 under 6,000 new places were taken up by English authorities under standing arrangements for non-maintained schools About 2,200 of those are at independent schools and the rest are direct grant schools.

The figures did not include handicapped pupils or arrangements in respect of other pupils on an individual basis. I regret that figures are not available for earlier years.

Mr Durant—The cuts in the rate support grant, particularly in areas like Berkshire, are making it increasingly difficult, together with her tough attitude on this for local education authorities to provide the parental choice for single-sex schools and denominational schools that they would wish.

Mrs Williams—We have made it clear in our circular that the only grounds on which local authorities should take places in independent schools is if there is an absolute shortage in the denominational system.

It is not part of our policy to make these places simply available for academic purposes.

Miss Joan Lester (Eton and Slough, Lab)—How many such places have been approved for the year 1978-79 and is she pursuing discussions with the Chancellor regarding the wastage of public money relating to the charitable status of independent schools?

Mrs Williams—On the first point we have only got a short way in getting returns because the period has not yet lapsed. It is clear there will be an overall reduction of at least 25 per cent in the current year in those places, and that includes those who start and therefore carry on to the end of the period, which is normally accepted by local authorities.

On the second point, this matter goes wider and studies and investigations are being made.

Mr Norman St John-Stevas, chief Opposition spokesman on education (Chelmsford, C)—The effect of her policy is to deprive parents of modest means of educational opportunity. (Labour protests and Conservative cheers.)

Is she not encouraging parental choice in theory but denying it in practice? Is that what she intends, or is it that her right hand does not know what her left hand is doing?

Mrs Williams—The Secretary of State's left hand and right hand work harmoniously together. It is clear that a system which enables parents to choose the independent system with authorities paying for it is a system which will wreck the effort to get higher standards in the maintained system.

Within the maintained system, we believe that many parental wishes can be met. The first priority is the attainment of high standards in the maintained system.

Mr St John-Stevas—How can she support her statement that the use of the private education system would wreck the maintained system when the foundation of the system, the 1944 Act, envisages the use of the private sector because the local authorities have to see that schools are available and not provide them?

Mrs Williams—He appears to forget that since the 1944 Act there has been the 1976 Act, which gave me powers, among other things, to restrict places in independent schools. The House is committed by its own vote to comprehensive education and creaming off a substantial section of the pupils to independent schools is not compatible with good comprehensive education.

Amnesty for pre-1973 illegal immigrants

Mr Ivor Clemitson (Luton, East, Lab) asked the Home Secretary what action he was taking with regard to Commonwealth citizens and citizens of Pakistan who gained entry to the United Kingdom before 1973 by employing deception and whom the courts have declared to be illegal immigrants.

Mr Merlyn Rees, said in a written reply: On April 11, 1974, my predecessor informed the House that he would not exercise powers, conferred on the Home Secretary under the Immigration Act, 1971, to remove a limited class of Commonwealth citizens and citizens of Pakistan—that is, only those who entered this country in breach of the immigration laws before January 1, 1973—because the provision of the Act putting them in jeopardy was retrospective.

At that time and until recently, it was generally thought that the administrative power to remove an illegal entrant was confined to those who avoided going through the immigration control. Recent court judgments have declared that illegal entrants also include those who gained admission through the control but by deception of various kinds.

This has always been a criminal offence, carrying with it liability to deportation on the recommendation of the court—but not, it was hitherto thought, removal under administrative powers.

I strongly condemn illegal entry; it is both an offence under our law, and a threat to harmonious community relations. I do not shrink from firm actio nto deal with it, and it will remain the Government's normal practice to send away those who entered in this way on or after January 1, 1973.

But I have decided, after taking account of the fact that, of the persons affected by the recent judgments, those at risk from the retrospective power will have been here for a minimum of nearly five years and that they may now be at risk of blackmail and coercion, to extend to them the opportunity offered by my predecessor to come forward and apply to the Home Office to have their position regularized.

This offer will be widely publicized: but it cannot remain open indefinitely and I have decided that the final date for considering applications, both under this announcement and that of my predecessor, will be December 31, 1978.

Hundreds of mentally ill held in prison

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk, Lab) asked if the Home Secretary was yet in a position to announce the number of mentally ill people held in imprisonment, and what steps were being taken to transfer them to hospital.

Mr Brynmor John, Minister of State, Home Office, in a written reply, said: I can confirm that there are, in the opinion of prison medical officers, some hundreds of people in prison suffering from mental disorder whose condition warrants detention in hospital for medical treatment, including a substantial number suffering from mental illness. I am not yet ready to offer a more precise estimate.

The transfer of a prisoner to a hospital for treatment under the provisions of the Mental Health Act, 1959, is in practice authorized only with the agreement of the hospital authorities and difficulties can therefore arise where the hospital staff consider that they are unable to offer treatment or do not have appropriate facilities.

In a number of cases because such difficulties have been foreseen the prison authorities have judged it not worthwhile to seek a place.

Discussions are taking place with the Department of Health and Social Security to explore what can be done to improve the position, but the problem is a difficult one.

Reports more fascinating than meetings

During questions to the Prime Minister Mr Andrew MacKay (Birmingham, Stechford, C) asked him if he would confirm a fascinating report in *The Times* today which said that yesterday, when he met the national executive of the Labour Party, the Prime Minister had remonstrated with them and told them they (the Government) owed their position in the House to the Liberal Party.

Is not the reality (he asked) that the Liberal Party owe their existence to the future of the Labour Government?

Mr Callaghan — No, I do not, though I usually find time to read these fascinating reports, to use his words. They are fascinating, I agree; it is sometimes much more fascinating to read the reports than to be present at the meetings. (Laughter.)

Britain ready to take unilateral action to conserve fish stocks

As reported in later editions of *The Times* yesterday.

Mr John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Lewisham, Deptford, Lab) moved that the House took note of six EEC Commission documents on fisheries.

He said that on December 5 the fisheries council would be considering once again whether it was possible to reach agreement on a common fisheries policy and whether once again there would be a series of ad hoc measures which were no substitute for a real lasting policy.

The six draft regulations being considered were on the division of resources and conservation of stocks. They took no account of the fact that 60 per cent of the fish stocks within the waters of the member states were in United Kingdom waters.

One regulation purported to give a preference to "North Britain", but it would only provide for preference to take effect if the total allowable catch was lower than in 1976. The Commission's suggestions for dealing with the division of resources were regarded by the Government as totally, utterly and irrevocably unacceptable. (Cheers.)

The Government agreed with the Commission that there must be sufficient fish left to divide, however the stocks might be divided. The Government's main criticisms were that the percentage of white fish by-catch which could be taken in the industrial fisheries was too high, there would be a lack of adequate control on the carrying of small-mesh nets on voyages during which white fishing was carried out, that more control over beam trawling was needed, and one draft regulation would continue a series of relaxations of conservation rules in the Skagerak and Kattegat.

Proposals to raise the standard white fish mesh in the North Sea from 70mm to 90mm, and to require a 70mm mesh when fishing for prawns could bring about an improvement in white fish stocks, and they deserved serious consideration. The proposal for a 90mm white fish mesh could not stand alone. If fishermen were asked to use larger meshes if they fished for cod or haddock, or whiting, they would be asked to accept a loss of catch for the time being.

We cannot (he said) do that without also doing something about the tremendous catch of small white fish taken in the course of industrial fishing in the North Sea.

The Government would press for a stronger and more effective set of measures.

The Government would always support conservation measures on a EEC-wide basis, but the clear lesson of the past year was that it was difficult to secure the agreement of all member states on measures which the Government regarded as essential, even if they were fully supported by scientific evidence.

If all concerned (he said) are willing to think constructively rather than to keep looking back and to demand to the letter everything that appears to have been prejudiced at the time of the Treaty of Accession, there exists the basis for a settlement which, while recognizing the needs of the United Kingdom could be of benefit to the EEC as a whole.

For the extension of United Kingdom legal jurisdiction to the fisheries within 200 miles bring with it an economic asset which is among the richest of its kind in the world. The withdrawal of third country vessels particularly those of the Soviet Union has increased the available stock to the benefit of the whole Community.

For it is largely the stocks within British waters which have enabled not only British vessels but also those of France and Germany to continue to fish off Norway and the Faroes. Accordingly the EEC must be prepared to take into account the contribution made by the resources within United Kingdom waters and the losses suffered by United Kingdom fishermen in the waters of third countries. We regard that as a principle that applies not only to us but also to the other members of the Community.

All practical considerations led the Government to require that belt of up to 50 miles which they had demanded. It was common sense that the fisheries of a coastal state should be concentrated in the waters nearest its coast. Common sense demanded that if the Community did not apply the conservation measures which the scientists deemed essential, those measures must continue to be applied, if necessary, unilaterally but without discrimination by the coastal state.

They had never shut their eyes to any alternative that might be proposed by the Commission, the presidency or the Council, but such an alternative must safeguard their position. It was in that spirit that they had suggested an alternative of their own and next week they would see to what extent their constructive approach had been met by others.

He hoped the discussion next week in the Council would be fruitful. The Government remained ready to act to conserve the fish stocks should that prove necessary.

Let nobody (he said) be under any illusions. The mandate I take to Brussels is a national one, representing as it does the views of everybody connected with fishing and every shade of political opinion in our country. It is to that mandate that our colleagues in Europe must now address themselves. (Cheers.)

Mr Michael Jopling, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture and fisheries (Westmorland, C) said that debates in the House strengthened Mr Silkin's negotiating hand in Brussels and the Opposition had consistently supported him over his welcome assertion that he intended to be resolute and get a solution which would ensure that the ultimately reorganized common fisheries policy would be fairer to the United Kingdom fishing industry.

These six proposals did not go far towards a new common fisheries policy. They only scratched the surface of the problem and in certain cases they did not make a scratch that was detectable to the human eye.

The background to the proposals was based almost entirely on conservation. At present the Community's pond yielded around three million tonnes of fish and scientists seemed to be agreed that with proper conservation policies that yield could rise to five million tonnes, which would mean they would have adequate fish for their own consumption with a surplus that they could arrange either to export or use in swop arrangements to ensure they got adequate supplies from countries whose waters at present were banned to them.

The proposals were a start. They needed major alteration, addition and stiffening if they were to become properly effective. As the measures stood they were pitifully inadequate.

The Opposition were not confident about the ability of some member states to carry out inspections and deal with catch controls. There had been many examples of blind eyes being turned to flagrant breaches of the regulations. The reorganized common fisheries policy must find a way of reducing opportunities for cheating, now rampant.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick upon Tweed, L) said if there were to be common rights to fish there should be common rights to apply controls. If Britain had no right to check ports in Europe then there could be no check that conservation measures were being adhered to.

British inspectors should be able to go to those ports to carry out inspections. There was not a pool of inspectors available from the other countries whose conservation record could give confidence that they were able to do the work. If other Community countries wanted to send inspectors to British ports however they should be free to do so.

There is no majority in this House (he said) for the kind of nonsense both the Commission and the Council of Ministers think we might accept.

The motion was agreed to.

'Church leaders remote from grass roots'

House of Lords

The General Synod of the Church of England was totally remote from the grass roots of churchgoers, Lord Denham (C) said in a debate on the Dioceses Measure.

The Bishop of London, moving that the House should direct that the Measure be presented to the Queen for Royal Assent, said it was the outcome of a groundswell of conviction within the Church that there must be machinery for reordering the structure of dioceses and the work of bishops so that barriers to pastoral care could be removed.

The measure was also designed to relieve Parliament of the necessity of having to spend time on the minutiae of ecclesiastical administration.

Under the Measure, with considerable safeguards, the creation of new dioceses and the alteration of diocesan boundaries would be carried out as a function of the General Synod through the newly established Dioceses Commission.

Lord Denham said that these Church measures were slipping through Parliament too quickly. He saw dangers in this transfer of power. If the General Synod had wanted to rewrite, and then rewrite again, the Lord's Prayer he doubted whether the House of Lords would have agreed to it. Now it could be done without a by-your-leave.

Could they rely on the General Synod to remember that people were people with feelings and not just units of population to be tossed about for their own administrative convenience? There was a steady shift of power from Parliament to the General Synod. Those to whom power was transferred should show a little more humility and compassion.

If they continued to ignore people's feelings the next time such a measure came before Parliament it might well be right for the Lords and Commons to say "Enough is enough". (Cheers.)

Lord Hankey said it was high time the Church moved with the times. Measures such as this were precisely what were required to enable it to do so. It would be helpful to the continued practice of the Christian religion and he wholeheartedly supported it.

The Bishop of London said he was saddened by Lord Denham's speech. He had said the General Synod was remote but that was always a danger that existed with any kind of democratic assembly. It was open to any churchman to find out who were the members of the General Synod. What they needed were people like Lord Denham who would express sentiments and test them against the general opinion of the Synod.

The Church of England had been wrestling with these constitutional problems for at least 100 years. They had been largely saddled with a medieval structure for the Church in the twentieth century.

When changes came it was inevitable that some people would dislike them. He agreed, however, that in making changes they ought to be sensitive and humble.

The motion was agreed to.

Moving a similar measure relating to parochial registers and records, The Bishop of London said ecclesiastical records and registers of the church should be preserved and protected as in many instances they were the sole existing resources for historical research. Yet they were often in great jeopardy through danger of loss, damp and carelessness. In remote parishes they might be out of reach of scholars.

The measure consolidated Acts and tightened up regulations respecting diocesan record offices and the deposit of documents in them for proper care. Register books completed and more than 100 years old must be deposited in diocesan record offices unless the diocesan bishop had advised they could be kept satisfactorily in the parish concerned.

The motion was agreed to.

Changes in General Medical Council

The main objective of the Medical Bill was to increase the effectiveness of the General Medical Council in regulating the medical profession, Lord Wells-Pestell, Lord in Waiting, said when he moved the second reading of the Bill.

The Bill makes provision for the reconstitution of the GMC and some expansion of its functions, and for the establishment of a health committee of the GMC with powers to control the registration of doctors whose fitness to practise is seriously impaired by reason of their physical or mental condition.

Lord Wells-Pestell said the GMC played a central role in maintaining high professional medical standards. The Bill was aimed at consolidating this role and making it easier to carry out. This was the first stage in the process of implementing the recommendations of the Merrison Committee, set up following dispute in the profession about the way in which it was regulated.

The Bill covered four main areas: Reconstitution of the GMC; relations with the Republic of Ireland on the regulation of the medical profession; doctors' fitness to practise; and the role of the GMC Education Committee.

These were areas in which the Merrison Committee recommendations were accepted in all quarters, and were suitable for early legislation.

It was the Government's firm intention to pursue the other recommendations and to introduce legislation on them. Consultation papers would be sent to interested organizations. It was hoped that it would be possible for some of the consultation papers to go out early in the new year.

The Bill gave the GMC powers to set up a health committee which, if it judged a doctor's fitness to practise to be seriously impaired by mental or physical illhealth, would be able to suspend his registration for up to 12 months at a time or to make it conditional on his compliance with specific requirements.

The GMC was concerned about its inability at present to act in such cases.

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Cricket

Board to make no decision until Jan 6 on whether to appeal

By Richard Streeton

Cricket board authorities will make no decisions until January 6 about an appeal after last week's High Court decision against them in the Kerry Packer affair, or on any of its ramifications. The Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) met at Lord's yesterday and decided to await a full transcript of Mr Justice Slade's judgment and then to seek counsel's opinion on whether there were grounds for an appeal.

A special meeting of the TCCB will be held on January 6 and by then, too, or soon afterwards, the International Cricket Conference (ICC), the other cricket body involved, are also expected to have been guided by counsel on what action should be taken. Neither body are expected to act unilaterally in the matter. TCCB members and the counties will have a copy of the opinion submitted by counsel before they meet to give them time to formulate an opinion.

Peter Lush, the TCCB's public relations officer, said at a press conference at Lord's last night: "It took two-and-a-half weeks to prepare the High Court judgment and five-and-a-half hours to deliver it. I think it is perfectly reasonable, therefore, that we all take a little longer to consider all the many aspects."

Answering questions, Mr Lush said that the TCCB had been unanimous about deferring a decision on whether to appeal or not. "All the next steps, includin gwhether there will be any approach to Mr Packer's organization and the other iscsues involving players will be on the agenda for January 6. There is no question of any contact being made with Mr Packer before then."

When it was pointed out that some county officials had already been quoted as saying that they would now reengage their Packer players, Donald Carr, the TCCB Secretary, said that individual opinions had been given when answering questions for reaction. No official decisions by full committees, however, had yet been taken. "One would hope that the views of the board on everything would be of a unanimous nature". Mr Lush added: "Everything really is in abeyance until Jnauary 6."

Yesterday's meeting, apparently, discussed all facets of the affair. Mr Lush confirmed to one inquirer that there had been no resignations offered nor had there been any suggestion that any should be made. The question of whether any board representatives should go to Australia to watch Mr Packer's matches had been referred to the TCCB's chairman's advisory committee. This could take *a decision on such issues though* it would be wrong to infer that there was any question o direct contact being made with Mr Packer. If a TCCB representative went to Australia it would be to hold discussions with the official Australian authorities. Both Mr Lush and Mr Carr stressed that they could not speak for the ICC but it was unlikely that either the board or the ICC would appeal by themselves without the others' support.

On a happier subject Mr Lush disclosed that the total sum available for distribution by the TCCB to the counties for 1977 was in the region of £1.5m, though the board's share of the estimated legal costs of £200,000 from the Packer case would have to be deducted from this. It was not yet known what proportion of the costs would fall to the TCCB and the ICC, respectively. The figure for distribution meant that even if the legal costs eventually had to be paid, each of the counties staging Test matches would receive about £80,000 and the other counties between £60,000 and £70,000. Last year's equivalent figures for the two categories weer about £70,000 and £30,000.

Mr Lush pointed out that English cricket had enjoyed two successful years financially, after the West Indians' visit in 1976 and the Australians this year. It was estimated that there would be at least £300,000 less for distribution next year when Pakistan and New Zealand toured and again in 1979 when the World Cup was staged together with a four-Test series with India.

Mr Lush deferred announcing the outcome of several matters on yesterday's TCCB agenda but did disclose that the county championship programme in 1979 would again be limited to 22 matches for each side. A 24-match programme might be instituted in 1980 if it could be worked into the fixture list without extending the season.

A working party to discuss new sponsorships and promotions in cricket had been set up by the board. They would discuss among other things a proposed new competition between the winners of the four existing competitions, though it was premature to say that this was definitely a possibility. It had been agreed between the board and the sponsors that for the sake of brevity the county championship, sponsored by Schweppes, would officially be renamed the Schweppes championship.

Packer idea could be used in English one-day game

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

Melbourne, Nov 29

A lack of foresight or facilities prevented any play today in the first of the "country" matches in the Packer programme. Not even a warm sun and a strong breeze which kept up all day were enough to dry the bowlers' run-ups, which had been inadequately protected against overnight rain.

The ground in Geelong, like most of those where the Packer matches are being played, is used primarily for football. Expecting a prompt start there were perhaps 50 people there this morning. The tour organizers are hopeful of attracting relatively larger crowds up-country than in the cities. Tomorrow a coaching clinic has been arranged for some of the local schoolboys, a feature of the Packer tour which can do nothing but good.

It was just outside Geelong, at the Church of England grammar school, one of Australia's most exclusive academies, that Mr Packer was educated (he was a house prefect in 1956) though they mostly seemed unaware there today that his troupe was in town. The story is told of him that when as a boy he arrived home in Sydney for the holidays without his tennis racket, his father, thinking it was casual of him to have left it behind, put him on the train to go back and get it, a round trip of well over one thousand miles.

The Country Cup is one of four competitions on the Packer tour. It comprises 14 matches, some of two days, some of three and all of a restricted number of overs. They are to be played in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland and not to be televised. To say that the next of them is at Rockhampton on Friday, a distance of 1,500 miles, will give an idea of the costs involved.

There is a circle with a 30 yards radius around each wicket at Geelong: only two fielders will be allowed farther from the bat than that in the first 10 overs of the match and only five after that. The idea, which is to prevent purely protective field-placings, though not original and in spite of its artificiality is an interesting one. If successful it could be incorporated, in a modified form, in one-day cricket in England.

Rose takes chance at number 3

Rawalpindi, Nov 29. — The Somerset opening batsman Brian Rose was today given the number three batting position in the England cricketers' first tour match against the Pakistan Cricket Board Patron's XI which starts here tomorrow.

The manager Ken Barrington, suggested at the start of the tour that the team for the opening game would be picked with next month's first Test match in mind and Rose has been given the chance to stake a claim for an England cap.

He came close to obtaining it when he was a standby for the fourth Test match against Australia last August. He is known to prefer going in first as he has done for Somerset for the past four seasons, but with Brearley and Boycott the likely Test openers, it seems he must take his chance at number three.

Randall and Roope, two other candidates to go in first wicket down, have also been picked for tomorrow's game but they will bat at number four and five, respectively.

Rose, aged 27, a studious left-hander who underlined his potential with a hundred for Somerset against the Australians last May, is the only one of the four uncapped players in the 16-man England party to be picked for the three-day game against the Patron's XI. Gatting, of Middlesex is twelfth man and Cope and Downton are omitted.

As expected, the Patron's XI will include all eight Test players who were named last week in the squad of 14 and the match should provide some firm pointers to the three-Test series which starts in Lahore on December 14.

A break in the weather is threatening a prompt start to the game. Grey skies and intermittent rain forced England to call off net practice before lunch today and it was not until the afternoon that the pitch for tomorrow's match was covered.

PATRON'S XI: Wasim Bari (captain), Mudassar Nazar, Shafique Ahmed, Haroon Rashid, Javed Miandad, Wasim Raja, Mohsin Khan, Abdul Qadir, Liaquat Ali, Saleem Altaf, Iqbal Qasim.

ENGLAND XI: J. M. Brearley (captain), G. Boycott, B. C. Rose, D. W. Randall, G. R. J. Roope, G. Miller, C. M. Old, R. W. Taylor, P. H. Edmonds, B. D. G. Willis, M. Hendrick.—Reuter.

Three spinners respond to Simpson's urgent request

Brisbane, Nov 29.—Bobby Simpson, the Australian captain, has sent an urgent request for three of Queensland's top spin bowlers to help his side prepare for the first Test match against India at the Gabba ground here on Friday. Graham Whyte, a strong contender for Test selection, Ian Kelly and David Ashworth will all bowl at the Australians at practice on Thursday morning.

Kelly, a finger spinner, is regarded as a future state player and Ashworth, who bowls chinamans, has already been added to the Queensland team. The Indian bowlers, regarded as the best spinners in the world, have consistently troubled the state sides on their unbeaten tour.

In return, Jeff Thomson is the player the Indians undoubtedly fear most after their match against Queensland last week. Thomson had every player probing at balls outside the off stump and it is likely that the Indians will be practicing against speed.

Prasanna, arguably the best off-spin bowler in the world, is still in doubt about his fitness. He has a torn hamstring and a decision on whether he will play will be made on Thursday. Prasanna was expected to be an automatic selection, though Venkataraghavan is regarded as being almost as good.

India are likely to play three spinners with Madan Lal and Mohinder Amarnath the likely opening bowlers. Bedi, the captain has taken five wickets in an innings four times on the tour and heads the list of wicket-takers with 23.

India's outstanding batsman, Gavaskar, is expected to regain his place after missing the matches against Queensland and New South Wales through injury. India's party of 16 had been depleted by injury to 13 fit players after the match against Queensland. Surinder Amarnath has a broken hand and is unavailable.—Reuter.

Tennis

Mottram still refuses to play under Hutchins

A fresh move to heal the rift between Christopher Mottram, one of Britain's top tennis players, and Paul Hutchins, the international team manager, has failed. Mottram still refuses to appear for his country as long as Hutchins is in charge of affairs. The manager revealed this in London yesterday when Coco-Cola announced a £60,000 sponsorship scheme spread over the next three years for Britain's Davis Cup team.

Mr Hutchins, who will have £20,000 to spend on next year's Davis Cup programme, said: "Before I formed my squad I wrote to Mottram a fortnight ago inviting him to be a member of it and asking him if we could not get together and try to heal our differences.

"I wanted him to join me and the rest of the players in trying to put British tennis back on the map. But through his manager he has replied that although he hoped to play for his country again some time he declined this invitation. He says that he realizes that harmony between the team manager and the players is an all-important issue and that his temperament might not be suited to the situation."

Mottram has been out of Britain's international team since he and Hutchins fell out at Wimbledon in 1975. Mr Hutchins also announced his party for next year's Davis Cup matches which begin with an away tie against Monaco in March. The players chosen are John Lloyd, David Lloyd, John Feaver, Roger Taylor and Richard Lewis.

Mr Hutchins explained the absence of the current No 1, Mark Cox, by saying: "Mark has commitments to Team Tennis in America which has prevented him from accepting my invitation."

Mr Hutchins also said that the new sponsorship meant that he would pay his team members £500 per match throughout the Davis Cup campaign. There will be a further £250 for the players for every rubber won. Part of the £20,000 available each year from the sponsors will go to the Lawn Tennis Association to help stage home ties.

Two more withdrawals

Johannesburg, Nov 29.—Hans Guildermeister, of Chile, and Victor Pecci, of Paraguay, have withdrawn from the South African open tournament. Ramirez and Solomon, last year's winner and seeded third and fourth respectively, have already withdrawn.—AP.

Italy hopes rise as Panatta finds his form

Sydney, Nov 29.—Adriano Panatta sounded an ominous warning to Australia today as the Italian team continued their practice for the Davis Cup final, starting on Friday. Panatta will spearhead Italy's attempt to regain the Cup, which they won last year by beating Chile 4—1 in Santiago.

The team had an intensive three-hour workout under their non-playing captain, Nicola Pietrangeli, at White City stadium today and Panatta was outstanding against Corrado Barazzutti. Pietrangeli made no attempt to hide his delight. "Panatta plays so well on grass now, particularly utilizing his booming, deep serve.

"I have no worries about him on grass and I'm confident he can beat any of the Australians." The Italians are slight underdogs for the final with the Australians being traditionally more competent on grass, but Panatta's increasing efficiency on the surface has come at the right time.

Pietrangeli, however, is less confident about the rest of the team's efforts at adjusting to what for ell of them is a difficult brand of tennis, though he does see grounds for optimism. Paolo Bertolucci, who is expected to team with Panatta in the doubles, played against Antonio Zugarelli today.

"The form of Barazzutti and Bertolucci on grass is a little worrying, but they are improving every day", Pietrangeli said. "I don't think Barazzutti's form against Panatta today is a true indication of his current game as any player in the world would have trouble with Panatta in his present mood." Panatta went to Sydney airport this morning to meet his father, who arrived on his first trip outside Italy to see his son play in the final.

In the Australian camp, the injured Tony Roche went through another testing session under his non-playing captain, Neale Fraser. Roche went through a two-and-a-half hour session with Ross Case. "The muscle injury in my back is getting better every day and I'll definitely be fit by Friday".

Hampshire offer terms to two

Hampshire have offered terms for next season to Mark Nicholas, a 19-year-old batsman from London and Paul Terry, the Millfield captain who is leading England Schools on this winter's tour of India. Bobby Parks, the 19-year-old son of the former Sussex and England wicketkeeper, Jim Parks, will be joining Hampshire as deputy to Bob Stephenson.

Holiday contracts have been offered to a 16-year-old fast bowler, Martin Doulton, and a Sherborne-educated batsman, Tim Edwards, who is going to Oxford in 1979.

Dyson thwarts Victoria

Sydney, Nov 29.—An unbeaten century by John Dyson thwarted Victoria's attempt at an outright victory over New South Wales in the Sheffield Shield match which ended in a draw here today. Dyson scored 103 in five-and-a-half hours for his third first-class hundred and his second this season.

New South Wales, who were set 401 for victory failed by 68 runs to reach the target.

SCORES: Victoria, 340 and 316 for 7 dec; New South Wales, 256 and 333 for 7 (J. Dyson 103 not out, P. Toohey 95).—Reuter.

Football

Elusive Best suspended for breach of discipline

George Best, formerly of Manchester United and of Northern Ireland, is under suspension by Fulham for breach of club discipline. He has not trained for over a fortnight. He last played for them at Stoke on November 12 and also withdrew from Northern Ireland's World Cup tie against Belgium on November 16.

Best joined Fulham in September last year and is on a four-year contract. But he also plays in the summer for the Los Angeles Aztecs in the United States and might eventually settle there. Fulham's manager, Bobby Campbell, said yesterday: "George just has not turned up, so I have no option but to suspend him. I do not even know where he is."

Mr Campbell also said that he expects to sign Richard Money, a *Scunthorpe defender, today.* The fee is about £50,000 and Fulham hope to sign him in time to play in the home match against Bolton Wandereres, the second division leaders on Saturday.

Gerry Gow, of Bristol City, has been suspended for one game from Saturday. He made a personal appeal to the Football Association's disciplinary committee in London yesterday after accumulating 20 points this season.

Bell could come back as a defender for City

Colin Bell could still have a future with Manchester City, not in his familiar midfield role, but as a defender. He played a full game in the middle of the defence against Blackburn Rovers reserves last Saturday and gave his most impressive display in 14 reserve team outings.

Ewing, City's reserve team trainer, has been bringing Bell along slowly in midfield, but he wanted him to become more physically involved to allow him to regain his confidence so he played him in the back four where he was forced to tackle.

Tony Book, the manager, said: "We are delighted at the way the experiment went. Colin could do a sweepers job until he is 90. He has unlimited stamina, he is good in the air and his tactical knowledge is first class. If we can't have him back in midfield there are defensive positions where I could use him."

Bell, trying to beat a two year injury jinx, said: "It was an enjoyable experience. When you have been in the game as long as I have you get a fair idea of how to play in different positions."

Several clubs have inquired about Bell, but Peter Swales, the chairman, said: "We told everyone that if Colin played again in League football it would be with Manchester City and that day could be much nearer now."

Scottish ties postponed

The Scottish League Cup semi-final matches between Celtic and Heart of Midlothian at Hampden Park today, and Forfar Athletic and Rangers at the same ground on Monday, have been postponed. The League secretary, Tommy Maule, said: "The ties will be played in March. Dates will be announced later."

Yesterday's Scottish first division match between Morton and St Johnstone was also postponed because of the weather.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: Bolton Wanderers v Leeds United.

FA CUP: First round replays: Exeter City v Newport County; Hereford United v Wealdstone; Weymouth v Gillingham.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Morton v St Johnstone.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheltenham v Maidstone. First division (South): Poole v Aylesbury.

FA VASE: Second round replay: Hoddesdon Town v Rushden Town.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Cup: Second round replay: Scarborough v South Liverpool.

RUGBY UNION: Bridgend v Cardiff College of Education (7.15); Coventry v Nottingham (7.15); Maesteg v Abertillery (7.0); Pontypridd v Cross Keys (7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Hull v Wigan.

HOCKEY: London League (2.15): Guildford v Cambridge University; London University v Oxford University.

Peter Lorimer (left) who returns to the Leeds United team against Bolton Wanderers tonight, and Peter Reid, back in Bolton's team after missing three games because of suspension.

Lorimer returns to Leeds for League Cup match

Peter Lorimer, who has missed two games because of an ankle infection, returns to the Leeds United side for the fourth round League Cup tie against Bolton Wanderers at Burnden Park today.

Brian Flynn, the £175,000 midfield signing from Burnley, is cup tied. Also included in the party are Reaney, who has been out with a cartilage operation after playing in the first five matches of the season, and Hampton, who was a substitute at West Ham on Saturday. There is a doubt about Harvey who has a virus infection and if he fails a late test Stewart will be recalled.

The Bolton manager, Ian Greaves, recalls Reid, a midfield player. Reid asked for a transfer last week when, after missing three games because of suspension, he was left out of the team that played Tottenham Hotspur.

He replaces Waldron who looks likely to join the North American league team, Vancouver Whitecaps. The clubs having agreed a fee of £20,000.

Morgan misses the tie after failing a fitness test on a thigh strain that has troubled him for several weeks. He is replaced by Thompson, a former England winger, and Jones comes into the side in place of the striker Worthington, who is cup tied.

The Southern League club Wealdstone are expected to be unchanged for their FA Cup first round replay at Hereford tonight. Their Manager, Alan Fogarty, whose side held their third division opponents to a goalless game at Lower Head on Saturday said yesterday that although there would be several tactical changes the names are likely to be the same.

Wealdstone have a double incentive to get through, for a victory would give them a second round match at Lower Mead against Reading, the side that defeated them last year.

Yugoslavians believe in tall World Cup stories

Belgrade, Nov 29.—Yugoslav, fresh from a remarkable 6—4 victory over Romania earlier this month, are confident that they can beat Spain by two clear goals here tomorrow and clinch their place in the finals of the World Cup. Their coach Marko Yalok, decided to attack the Romanians and relied on his talented youngsters. They responded and, suddenly, Yugoslavia's World Cup hopes rose again.

"We shall go for all-out attack against Spain and I am confident we can score the goals we need", Yalok said. Spain, who are set to stage the World Cup finals in 1982, head the European qualifying group eight with four points from three games. In this, their final match, they need only draw to reach the last 16 in Aregntina. Even a 1—0 defeat would put them through on goal difference.

Yalok is expected to give a chance to some newcomers, as he did against Romania. Indeed, Sead Susic may be given a chance to add to the family honour. He is rated one of their best players but has emerged as a serious international candidate only since renouncing his former playboy image.

If the Yugoslavian task seems tall, it is not without precedent. In Chile, in 1962, Yugoslavia had to draw with Poland to qualify and went on to finish fourth. They performed a similar feat to qualify for Sweden in 1958, and again, in 1974, Yugoslavia competed in West Germany after beating Spain in a play-off in Frankfurt.

With such a record, their supporters believe that they will see another historic victory in Red Star Stadium here with a capacity of 100,000 spectators. Organizers sold 91,000 tickets to allow room for spectators dressed in thick winter coats. Ardent supporters are hoping for wet, cold and snowy conditions for the match which would be disadvantageous for the Spaniards.

Spain's main problem will be to contain Safet Susic, Yugoslavia's outstanding striker who scored three against Romania. Another danger is Popivoda, who plays for Eintracht Brunswick in West Germany and is the only foreign-based player in the team.

Ladislav Kubala, the Spanish coach, will be anxious to slow the game down, especially early on. Spain have conceded only one goal in their group matches but their lack of fire power has been a source of worry to Kubala.

YUGOSLAVIA (probable): Katalinic: Jelikic, Boljat, Trifunovic, Stojkovic, Muzinic, Popivoda, Vukotoc, Kustudic, Surja, Susic.

SPAIN (probable): Arconada: Marcelino, Camacho, Muguell, Pirri, Asensi, Leal, Lopez, Juanito, Santillana or Ruben Cano, Dani.—Agencies.

Group 8

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	3	2	0	1	3	1	4
Romania	4	2	0	2	7	8	4
Yugoslavia	3	1	0	2	6	7	2

Rugby Union

Harlequins' surprise catch of big Whiting

Peter Whiting, one of the best-known All Blacks of the 1970s, will make a surprise reappearance in the Harlequins side in the merit table match against Blackheath at the Rectory Field on Saturday. Whiting, aged 29, who played 20 times for New Zealand, has returned to Britain from Auckland because he plans to take a course in the study of gems and precious stones.

Harlequins, for whom the giant New Zealander played regularly at the end of the 1973-74 season, hope that he will be available for the remainder of the season. Whiting returned to Britain on Friday, and played in the Harlequins Junior A side on Saturday.

His arrival took officials by surprise. Earl Kirton, a fellow New Zealander, who has been the club coach in recent years, said: "Peter just turned up with his bags at the club, asking if we could fix him up with a game. He hadn't even fixed up anywhere to stay.

Whiting last played for New Zealand on their 1976 tour of South Africa. He dropped out of top rugby during the last season and did not play against the Lions because of a disagreement with the Auckland Union.

Mr Kirton said: "Peter was involved in a carpet business which prevented him from training on Sunday mornings, and as this was unacceptable to the Union he was not selected." Whiting, a qualified teacher, decided to take up the study of gems during the South African tour. The course, however, does not start until next autumn and he expects to find casual work in the meantime.

Moseley have had to call Bucknall out of semi-retirement to play against Gloucester at The Reddings because of Saturday's regional matches. Bucknall, who played for Staffordshire in the 1960s, is the fourth choice hooker as Cox is playing for West Midlands; Brain is a reserve and the third choice, Adam, is injured.

Cooper and Cusworth are on opposite sides in the regional match between West Midlands and East Midlands at Coventry, so 19-year-old Allen comes in for his first team debut. Altogether, Moseley, still unbeaten by a club side, lose 11 players to the regional trial.

Saracens will be without Phillips, Croydon, Fairclofs, McGregor and Morris against Liverpool at Southgate. In come Smith, Worsford and Lynn. Duncan, of New Zealand, who played for Poverty Bay against the 1971 Lions is at scrum half and Castle returns on the wing in place of Hanson.

London Scottish make three changes for their trip to Bath. Friell is unavailable and his place at centre is taken by Easter. Hay returns at lock in place of Forbes and Goodenough comes into the back row for Stewart, who is playing in the B international against Ireland.

Rosslyn Park, deprived of seven players because of the England regional trials on Saturday, choose from a party of 17 for their London merit table clash with Wasps at Sudbury. Park are without five forwards, Roach, Ripley, Mordell, Stect, Mantell, centre Ralston and scrum half George. Anderson takes over the captaincy but there are doubts about the fitness of Hooke and Flaskey.

Wasps make three changes from the side that decisively beat Metropolitan Police for the Rosslyn Park match. Rayner comes in for French, Evans for Conner and Waldron for Ball, because of their involvement in regional trials.

Irishmen in charge

Owen Doyle and Michael Rea, two of Ireland's top referees, have been chosen to take charge of the England regional Rugby Union trials on Saturday. Mr Doyle officiates at the South West v South match at Exeter and Mr Rea handles the London North v London South game at Esher.

Squash rackets

Alauddin's gossamer web has Leslie spinning

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Jonathan Leslie, Britain's national amateur champion, was beaten 9—4, 9—1, 7—9, 9—6 by Gogi Alauddin, ranked fourth in the world, in the first round of the squash rackets tournament sponsored by Pakistan International Airlines at Wembley on Monday night. This is the fourth and last tournament in a pioneering series that began in Frankfurt in August and later enlivened the squash scene in such scattered cities as Stockholm and Karachi.

For most of his match Leslie was in a dilemma in that he could neither hit winners against Alauddin nor sustain the kind of rallies he was forced to play. Violence is alien to Alauddin's nature. His game is all gently flowing patterns—charming to watch but agonizing to oppose. Se has the tactical instinct of a spider. He spins his web, every gossamer strand of it placed with precision, and watches his victims struggle and suffer until they have lost the strength or the will to resist.

That was how it was for most of this match. Leslie was almost off the court before he had a chance to show us what he could do. But from 5—1 up in the third game Alauddin lost some of his concentration and momentum. Leslie seized the chance to mix the long and short games admirably. He was thinking well and moving well. Moreover, he had found a second wind. He won 11 points out of 13 and Alauddin had to make a considerable effort of will to tighten up his game and finish the job. In addition to his late and impressive challenge, Leslie had the satisfaction of knowing that matches such as this teach a man the measure of his strength and his weakness—and such measures are the prerequisites of improvement.

Ahmed Safwat, whose latest hairstyle makes him look Napoleonic, beat Rehmatullah Khan, 2—9, 9—6, 9—5, 9—7, in a briskly fluctuating match. Rehmatullah won 13 of the first 16 points because he played to a tidier length and scored repeatedly with fluently played, nick-hugging drops. Safwat was struggling to find an accelerator. Then Safwat had a run of 13 points out of 15. He was now working hard, mentally and physically: bouncing about the court on his bulging thighs, retrieving with agile tenacity, and showing us how enviably deft he can be in using the side walls.

Suddenly finding the points far more difficult to win, Rehmatullah briefly became prey to the indiscretion that is the child of anxiety. But once he had adjusted himself to the glowing improvement in Safwat's performance Rehmatullah again played well. The last game and a half were hotly contested. Reasonably enough, the result suggested that when both are playing well, Safwat plays slightly better.

Last December the ambitious and assiduous Bruce Brownlee became the first New Zealander to win the British amateur championship. He is now one of the latest recruits to professionalism. He beat John Easter, 5—9, 9—6, 9—4, 9—6. Easter had the more punishing shots, notably his backhand cross-court nicks, and he was the better player until two things happened. First Brownlee's tireless capacity for containment gradually took much of the running out of Easter, who become increasingly prone to seek shorter rallies than Browrless or the percentages would permit him. Secondly, Brownlee began to read Easter's game with more facility. Brownlee's short game is not yet severe. But it serves its purpose in the overall need to move his man about. This he did: and Easter could not move about fast enough.

RESULTS: B. Brownlee (New Zealand) beat J. Easter (GB), 5—9, 9—6, 9—4, 9—6; A. Safwat (Egypt) beat R. Khan (Pakistan), 2—9, 9—6, 9—5, 9—7; G. Alauddin (Pakistan) beat J. Leslie (GB), 9—4, 9—1, 7—9, 9—6; A. Aziz (Egypt) beat M. Yasin (Pakistan), 10—8, 6—9, 9—1, 1—9, 9—1.

Exultation and admiration: Fabienne Serrat of France (left), acknowledges the cheers of the crowd after winning the women's slalom in the world skiing series at Crans-Montana yesterday. A young supporter (right) watches Muhammad Ali preparing for a five-round charity bout with Scott LeDoux in Chicago on Friday.

مكتبة الإعلام

SPORT

Racing

Royal Frolic can come out of the shadows to put out The Last Light

By Michael Seely

Royal Frolic, the hero of the 1976 Cheltenham Gold Cup, can win his first race since that memorable afternoon in March by capturing the Edward Hanmer Memorial Steeplechase at Haydock Park.

There were four inches of frost on the court on Monday night, but it would have been perfectly possible to race there yesterday. If there has been any further frost it is likely that there will be an inspection this morning.

Royal Frolic developed leg trouble last season, so Fred Rimell wisely decided that rest was the best cure. Still only eight years of age, Royal Frolic has time on his side.

On his reappearance at Wincanton Royal Frolic turned in a thoroughly sound performance when running Border Incident to one and a half lengths. After making the early running he was comfortably outpaced by Richard Head's brilliant jumper. The race was run in a slow time, but at least it told us that Royal Frolic was well on the road to recovery.

The Last Light, Spacer and What a Buck are his only three opponents. Spacer is out of his depth in this company. What a Buck has not fulfilled the promise that he showed in his younger days. But although that remarkable permit holder John Dixon's The Last Light has to concede 5 lb to Royal Frolic, the gelding will certainly test the Gold Cup victor's mettle.

Undefeated in his only two races this season, The Last Light showed an admirable blend of speed and courage when narrowly beating Tamalin at Wetherby. He was receiving lumps of weight from Tamalin that afternoon, so on form he certainly cannot be considered a serious threat. But this tough and consistent eight-year-old will provide a good guide to the full extent of Royal Frolic's well being.

Royal Frolic's able trainer is overflowing with confidence and Sir John Hanmer should have the double satisfaction of watching Royal Frolic administer a handsome beating of his field and also of winning the race named in honour of his father.

The supporting Northern Hurdle will provide an interesting backcloth to the day's centrepiece. Mrs Monica Dickinson's Honegger is sure to start favourite on the strength of his victory in Nottingham's Merit Hurdle recently.

Other horses who won last time out were Guy Harwood's San Patricio and Sharpferbeds, who created something of a surprise when foiling a gamble on Nice and Friendly at Wetherby. Gordon Richards' gelding is sure to show improvement and being by Charlottown will appreciate every yard of this afternoon's two-and-a-half miles.

Honegger was ridden with a great deal of confidence by Michael Dickinson at Nottingham, coming from a long way back to deliver his challenge at the final flight of hurdles. Three times a winner on the flat last season, Honegger may make his speed tell again today. But the best value in the race may be Ernie Weynes's Eastbrook, who was only just over four lengths in arrears of Honegger. Eastbrook's form on the flat was nothing to write home about, but he was having his first race for several months at Nottingham while Honegger had the benefit of a previous outing. Eastbrook is my each-way selection.

Like so many of Haydock's midweek and Friday programmes the racing, apart from the two feature events, is rather dull. Brigadier Roscoe Harvey's No Defence has already been successful twice this season and may be able to give the weight to Culloville and Arctic Thornton's Tommy's Hope, a beaten favourite at Ayr last week, may be worth another chance in the Bryn Handicap Hurdle.

At Sedgefield, where there is an inspection at 7.30 and prospects are not at all good, the Newcastle scorer, Philip Green, may manage to defy his penalty for that success in the first division of the Quarrington Novies Hurdle. Arthur Stephenson's five-year-old, The Fencer, meets nothing of the calibre of his recent Ayr conqueror, Flashy Boy, in the Claxton Handicap Steeplechase. And finally Peter Easterby's remarkable gelding, Father Delaney, can record his fifth win off the reel in the Embleton Handicap Hurdle.

Amazingly, Easterby's Black and White Whisky Hurdle second, Alverton, is a 4-1 chance for the £10,000 Mecca Bookmakers Handicap Hurdle, the highlight of a wonderful day's racing at Sandown Park on Saturday. There were only 15 acceptors at the four-day stage of declarations yesterday. The bulk of the money with the sponsors has been for the top weight, Beacon Light, who is now a clear favourite at 2-1.

Jim Joel's six-year-old's defeat of Night Nurse and Dramatist at Newbury looks pretty impressive on paper. But remember that as Beacon Light was receiving weight from the champion hurdler, who was by no means fully wound up, he may be a trifle flattered by that result. I cannot see that Beacon Light represents good value at 2-1 to beat Alverton at a difference of 11 lb. Alverton tasted defeat at the hands of a handicap certainty in the shape of Kybo at Ascot. Glancing down the list of his likely opponents on Saturday, the 4-1 on offer against Alverton looks an attractive proposition.

The Mecca Bookmakers Handicap Steeplechase promises to be an enthralling spectacle. The sight of really quick two-milers hurtling themselves over those tightly packed fences alongside the railway embankment is one of the most exciting things racing has to offer. There are only seven acceptors but they are Tingle Creek, Isle of Man, Grangewood Girl, Tree Tangle, Persian Camp, Perambulate, Young Arthur and the Irish gelding Vaguely Attractive. Of these only Isle of Man is a doubtful starter at present. The sponsors make Tree Tangle their favourite at 9-4.

STATE OF GOING (official): Haydock Park: Steeplechases, good. Hurdles, good to firm. Run in both courses, firm. Sedgefield: Tomorrow: (7 am inspection). Warwick: good. Wincanton: good to firm.

Scots Gambol takes the last ahead of Hill Station (left) and Hipparion.

Donzel may seek a unique double

Donzel may seek a unique double, the Triumph Hurdle and the Lincoln, if he maintains the sparkle of his victory in the November Hurdle at Plumpton yesterday in which Nicholas Holman had a remarkable escape on Cambooya. Donzel took the lead at the last flight when Cambooya swerved violently to the left.

Cambooya crashed through the plastic rails and demolished the wing of the nearby fence on the steeplechase course. Indeed, the impact was so severe that a three-inch square oak post, which secured the wing to the ground, was snapped. Holman was able to walk to the ambulance room where it was found he had only a cut finger. His mount returned unscathed.

The stewards inquired into Cambooya's behaviour. In view of his previous display at Fontwell Park's October meeting, when he ran out at the top bend of the course, they warned his trainer, Diane Oughton, that future similar behaviour might cause a report to be made to the stewards of the Jockey Club.

After the abrupt departure of Cambooya, Donzel was able to register a smooth victory, three lengths clear of an outsider, Mingalles. Thoroughly satisfied by his newcomer's performance, Guy Harwood said: "Our colt has 7st 5lb in the Lincoln and will run in it. If he continues to improve, he could take in the Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham before going to Doncaster."

Richard Hoare reached an important milestone in his career when he kept Mr Moke going to repel Dormie's challenge by a neck in the Galleano Challenge Cup. It was his first victory since he turned professional after nine wins and 20 point-to-point successes. Mr Moke was discovered himself in a field on the Somerset coast and was bought for £60.

James Akehurst, aged 19, celebrated his first success on Tudor Jewel at Fontwell last week by winning on his stablemate, Scots Gambol, who beat Hill Station by a length in the Balcombe Handicap Hurdle. Scots Gambol was purchased as a five-year-old for 750 guineas by James Bowman.

The favourite, Hipparion, who was bumped on the final bend, finished two lengths further away in third place and was unsaddled in the road near the enclosures. "When Philip Blacker pulled him up, he was not right in his action behind and was reluctant to enter the enclosure", Stan Mellor said. "The horse soon recovered and I suspect he may have pulled a muscle in his hind quarter."

Although Brown Jock, a game winner of the Scaynes Hill Handicap Steeplechase is qualified for the Grand National, he will not be going to Aintree. "He's not the type for the National", Roddy Armytage, his trainer, said. Brown Jock went ahead with four fences left and held on well when Flying Prince produced a sustained challenge in the closing stages.

Prize money at Chepstow in 1978 will amount to a record £191,000, says the clerk of the course, John Hughes. This will include £15,000 in February for the Joe Coral Welsh Grand National, the richest race ever run at the course, and £10,000 for the Welsh Champion Steeplechase on Easter Monday.

Other increases include the BMW Hunter Steeplechase Final—£5,000 for the men and £2,000 for the owner—the Aynsley Steeplechase, up to £5,000, and the £8,000 Panama Cigar Hurdle Final.

Improvements planned for the track include terracing around the parade ring and a permanent woman jockeys' changing room. Plans to utilise the course on non-racing days include a two-day festival of spectacular outdoor events on July 29 and 30.

Wragg family take over the sales

The Wragg family took over the Newmarket December Sales arena for a few minutes last night to stage their own private scenario, as Europe's longest-running bloodstock auction passed the halfway mark with an all-time record aggregate now a distinct possibility by the time business is concluded on Friday afternoon.

The batch of 12 horses sent up by the trainer, Harry Wragg, provided the highlight of the nine-hour session, fetching a combined sum of nearly 120,000 guineas, including the top price of the day at 42,000 guineas.

This was the figure realized by Wragg's game staying filly, Rampage, who completed a four-timer in three weeks at the end of last season, and it was the trainer's son, Peter, who made the winning bid.

Peter Wragg, who operates a bloodstock business in Newmarket, outbid the French company, Office du Pur Sang, to secure this beautifully-bred three-year-old filly by Busted out of Boulette on behalf of an undisclosed Irish stud.

Rampage did not race as a juvenile but enjoyed a remarkable time in 1977 and ended with five victories from her last six starts, carrying the colours of "Budgie" Moller.

Minutes later it was the "Harry and Peter" show all over again when another Wragg-trained three-year-old filly was led into the ring.

This was Zaran, who like Rampage, ran up a sequence of four victories in under a month this summer. She now heads for South America after being purchased by Wragg junior for 24,000 guineas. Peter Wragg said: "Zaran will go to Venezuela when the ban on the importation of bloodstock to America is lifted".

Zarah is by Midsummer Night II, who dead-heated in the Cambridgeshire with Wragg-trained Violetta.

Two maiden three-year-old fillies with outstanding pedigrees, sent up later from Jeremy Tree's Beckenham Houe stables, brought a combined total of more than 50,000 guineas.

First on the Fringe, a vaguely Noble-sired half-sister to the brilliant 1968 English two-year-old Ribofilio, paid 28,000 guineas, bought by the Airlie stud owner, Tim Rogers.

It needed a bid of 25,000 guineas from the Greek owner-breeder, Marcos Lemos, to secure Mill Reef's daughter Quiet Harbour. The latter's dam, Peace, is responsible for three top-class performers in Peaceful (Vaux Gold Tankard and five other races) Quiet Fling (Coronation Cup and John Porter Stakes), and the Irish Sweeps Cambridgeshire winner, Intermission.

La Rosee, who broke the Sandown five-furlong track record in May but failed to supplement that success in three more outings, was sold out of Toby Balding's yard for 28,000 guineas to the British Bloodstock Agency.

The company took this Reform filly on behalf of Gavin Hunter's stable.

The smart Irish filly, Countess Eileen, a four-year-old by Sassafras, fetched 23,000 guineas from the Irish breeder, John Alexander.

With three days remaining, the running total for the sale is now nearly 4.3 million guineas and the all-time December sales record of 6.8 million set in 1972, is within sight. During the day 140 lots were sold for 1,109,090 guineas, an average of 7,494 guineas.

Fair Kitty wins in first appearance over fences

Fair Kitty, a winner five times on the flat and five times over hurdles for her owner-breeder, Alan Milner, and the trainer, Jimmy Fitzgerald, made a successful and faultless first appearance over fences in the Tetworth Novices' Steeplechase at Huntingdon yesterday.

Always close up, Fair Kitty took charge two fences out to beat the 33-1 chance Master R by three lengths.

Grando King, backed from 7-2 to 5-2, was neither travelling nor jumping well and looked thoroughly disheartened when he tried to refuse four fences out. His rider, Ron Hyett, pulled him up before the next.

Fitzgerald, who claims the enviable record of two winners and two seconds from only four runners on the Huntingdon course, has been schooling Fair Kitty over fences since last spring and has never seen her make a mistake.

The versatile mare runs next at Newcastle and will get more experience in ordinary company before trying to qualify for the Embassy Premier Steeplechase final at Haydock Park in January. If all goes well she could also run at the Cheltenham festival meeting, but will want good ground.

Haydock Park programme

1.0 WIGAN STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £631: 2m)

Sunrise Hill (D), D. Nicholson, 5-11-5 .... J. King

[illegible]

1.30 BILLINGE HURDLE (Handicap: £482: 2m)

[illegible]

2.0 EDWARD HANMER STEEPLECHASE (£2,173: 3m)

[illegible]

2.30 NORTHERN HURDLE (3-y-o: £1,993: 2½m)

[illegible]

3.0 COUNTY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £860: 2½m)

[illegible]

Half a Sixpence (D), K. Oliver, 12-10-10 .. Maj H. Baillie 5

Arctic Challenge, G. Fairbairn, 7-10-10 .... Mr P. Greggs 5

Follow Me, Miss M. Benson, 9-10-0 .... Mr C. Sample 7

7-4 No Defence, 5-2 Arctic Challenge, 11-2 Half a Sixpence, 7-1 Rookery Nook, 8-1 Cu lon lle, 12-1 Follow Me.

3.30 BRYN HURDLE (Handicap: 4-y-o: £653: 2m)

1122-41	Katmandu (D), C. Carter, 12-0	J. J. O'Neill	
[illegible]	[illegible] (D), J. Bousfield, 11-2	D. Goulding	
1000-40	Royal Gaye (D), F. Rimell, 10-3	J. Burke	
012-4	Tommys Hope (D), C. Thornton, 10-2	D. Munro	
22-4113	Mactavish, J. Barron, 10-1	K. Gray	
2223-23	Minimist, [illegible], 10-0	J. L. Goulding	7
203400-	Apple Princess, W. Elsey, 10-0	G. Holmes	

2-1 Katmandu, 7-2 Royal Gaye, 9-2 Tommys Hope, 13-2 Mactavish, 7-1 Minimist, 9-1 [illegible], 10-1 Apple Princess.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Staff

1.0 Sunrise Hill. 1.30 Highland Jig. 2.0 Royal Frolic. 2.30 Eastbrook. 3.0 No Defence. 3.30 Tommy's Hope.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.30 Divinity.

Sedgefield Park programme

12.45 QUARRINGTON HURDLE (Div I: £272: 2m)

1	3001	Philip Green, J. Vickers, 5-11-8	N. Tinkler
2	P	Big Fred, S. Nesbitt, 6-10-12	A. Flint 5

[illegible]

1.15 GRINDON HURDLE (£272: 2m)

[illegible]

1.45 EMBLETON HURDLE (Handicap: £928: 2½m)

[illegible]

2.15 CLAXTON STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £644: 3m 250yd)

[illegible]

2.45 WOODHOUSE STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £346: 2m)

[illegible]

Prairie Master, R. E. Peacock, 8-11-3 .... Mr M. Brisbourne 5

Snowdrift, C. Lamb, 6-11-3 .... R. Lamb

Evens Brother Will, 13-8 Snowdrift, 9-2 Prairie Master, 33-1 Oakley Cross.

3.15 QUARRINGTON HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £272: 2m)

2		Anyone Not Dancing, Mrs S. Cooper, 5-10-12	—
3	0000-04	Bitter End, W. A. Stephenson, 5-10-12	R. Collins 5
4	00	Fair Fool, Mrs R. Lomax, 5-10-12	Mr M. Brisbourne 5
7	0	My Story, D. Chapman, 5-10-12	G. Kelly
8		Sky Glow, L. Griffiths, 5-10-12	K. McCauley
9	000200	Village Dusky, Denys Smith, 5-10-12	A. Dickman
10	00-00	Another Debona, S. Nesbitt, 4-10-7	A. Flint 5
11		Bath Miss, R. Gray, 4-10-7	P. Salmon 5
13		Lammas Fair, R. Cross, 4-10-7	S. Charlton 5
14	000-020	Lord Ancholme, H. Wharton, 4-10-7	D. Greaves
16	200-3	Nellie's Lad, J. Skilling, 4-10-7	P. Charlton 5
18	p0-0490	Running Deep, W. Fairbairn, 4-10-7	N. Tinkler
19	00f4-	Saucy Eater, T. Barnes, 4-10-7	M. Barnes
20	0p00-04	Yagoda, C. Hoyle, 4-10-7	Mr A. Fowler 7

11-4 Bitter End, 9-2 My Story, 6-1 Village Dusky, Nellie's Lad, 8-1 Lord Ancholme, 10-1 Running Deep, 12-1 Yagoda, 16-1 others.

Sedgefield selections

By Our Racing Staff

12.45 Philip Green. 1.15 Warrenwood Park. 1.45 Father Delaney. 2.15 The Fencer. 2.45 Snowdrift. 3.15 Nellie's Lad.

Plumpton results

1.0 (1.1) STANMER HURDLE (Handicap: £344: 2m)

Blasta Blaze, b g, by Blast—Avernn (G. Hackling), 12-10-11 R. Rowe (7-2) 1

[illegible]

1.30 (1.31) GALLEANO STEEPLECHASE

[illegible]

2.0 (2.0) BALCOMBE HURDLE

[illegible]

2.30 (2.31) SCAYNES HILL STEEPLECHASE

[illegible]

3.0 NOVEMBER HURDLE (Div I)

[illegible]

Mingalles .... J. Suthern (20-1) 2

Sovereigns Escort .... A. Gonsalves (6-4 fav) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-1 Splendid Summer, 7-1 Cambooya (ro), 12-1 Rugare (4th), 14-1 Mixer Up Kid, Nambara Cove, Vaguely James, 20-1 Ebony Morn, Karlisa, Legal Laird, Pontulay, Roal. 14 ran.

TOTE: Win, 79p; places, 35p, £2.09, 14p; dual forecast, £19.94. C. Harwood, Pulborough. 5l, 6l.

3.30 (3.31) NOVEMBER HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o novices: £475: 2m)

Mr Playbirds, gr g, by Capistrano—Liesel (Roldvale Ltd), 10-10 .. J. King (13-8 fav) 1

Linton .... J. Redmond (7-1) 2

Plastic Cup .. G. McCourt (20-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 7-2 Hell Bent (4th), Blakamour, 8-1 Good Intent, 12-1 Frankenstein, Doughty, Daventry Sealink (p), 20-1 Beau Star. 10 ran.

TOTE: Win, 20p; places, 11p, 29p, 51p; dual forecast, 53p. N. Callaghan, Newmarket. 1l, 10l.

TOTE DOUBLE: Scots Gambol, Donzel, £267.25. TREBLE: Mr Moke, Brown Jock, Mr Playbirds, £49.40.

Huntingdon

12.45 (12.46) PAXTON HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o novices: £345: 2m 200yd)

[illegible]

R. Champion (6-4 jt fav) 3

[illegible]

1.15 (1.16) TETWORTH STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £534: 2½m)

Fair Kitty, ch m, by Saucy Kit—Family Affair (A. Milner), 6-11-4 I. Watkinson (7-4 fav) 1

Master R .. D. Sunderland (33-1) 2

Bird of Prey .. A. Webber (16-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 5-2 Grando King (pu), 7-2 Royal Rescue (4th), 6-1 Tourern (f), 33-1 Bill's Brother (ur), Coles Dam, Elfin Lady (ur). 9 ran.

TOTE: Win, 34p; places, 25p, £1.52, 21p; dual forecast, £35.80. J. Fitzgerald, at Malton. 3l, 1l.

1.45 (1.47) HOUGHTON HURDLE

[illegible]

Bargillean .... M. O'Shea (13-2) 2

Paquita ...... M. Soames (33-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Captain Cheeko (4th), 4-1 O'Henry, 6-1 Philomer, Linbolm, 33-1 Cayphoon. 8 ran.

TOTE: Win, 51p; places, 11p, 48p, 66p; dual forecast, £1.80. M. Chapman, at Clipstone. 5l, 1½l. Winner was bought in for 775 guineas.

2.15 (2.16) PETERBOROUGH STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £640: [illegible])

[illegible]

ALSO RAN: 12-1 Fighting Chance (4th), 20-1 Welsh Buda (p). 5 ran.

TOTE: Win, 32p; dual forecast, 18p. D. Morley, at Bury St Edmunds. 8l, sh hd.

2.45 (2.47) BEDFORD STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £609: 3m 100yd)

Soon For Sale, ch g, by Sheshoon—Love For Sale (T. Appleyard), 6-12-0 .. M. Leak (11-10 fav) 1

Holly Park .. M. Lowry (100-30) 2

[illegible]

3.15 (3.31) PAXTON HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o novices: £365: 2m 200yd)

Mister Parsley, b g, by Roan Racket—Aborader (I. Thoday), 10-10 J. Francome (6-4 fav) 1

Holuan .... B. R. Davies (7-2) 2

Slivers .... S. Smith Eccles (4-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 8-1 Stalbec (4th), 10-1 Amourous Song, 16-1 Kolligan Kangafoo, 20-1 Kwiredell, 50-1 Dienau, Halmahera, The Festival Chat (p). 10 ran.

[illegible]

TOTE DOUBLE: Mercedon, Soon For Kitty. [illegible]

Boxing

WBC chief calls on Ali to retire 'in triumph'

Madrid, Nov 29.—The president of the World Boxing Council (WBC), Jose Sulaiman, of Mexico, today invited the world heavyweight champion, Muhammad Ali, "to retire from boxing in triumph".

Addressing the WBC's annual convention here, Mr Sulaiman said Ali was the greatest personality in the history of boxing and the genuine pride of the boxing world. "But he must avoid any diminishing of his image in the eyes of boxing fans and authorities. If Ali continues to fight, he must do so with absolute respect for our regulations as not even he, for all his greatness, can make the WBC avoid its obligations based on our constitution", Mr Sulaiman said. He added: "I take this opportunity to extend a new invitation to Muhammad Ali to retire from boxing in triumph".

Mr Sulaiman was believed to be referring to widespread feelings in WBC circles that Ali is reluctant to box top challengers and is content to meet a string of lower-ranked boxers he feels he can beat without too much difficulty.

The WBC constitution states that a world champion must be "willing and ready at all times to defend his title against any qualified opponent". The number one contender, Ken Norton, who has met Ali three times in the past and lost twice, is expected to arrive in Madrid tomorrow to argue that Ali is avoiding him and to demand he be stripped of his title. Ali has not boxed the number one contender since he met Joe Frazier at Manila in September 1975. When be last met Norton, George Foreman was the official challenger.

The WBC have ordered Ali to agree by December 31 to meet Norton, but Ali has applied for an extension of the deadline until February 15 to enable him to meet another American, Leon Spinks, ranked thirteenth, the week before. The Council are expected to decide on the application, and what measures to take to ensure Ali meets Norton, on Thursday.—Reuter.

Madrid, Nov 29.—The British middleweight boxer Alan Minter, has been given the chance of a quick rematch with Gratien Tonna of France, who beat him in Milan last September to take the European title, Ray Clarke, a British Boxing Board official said today.

The European Boxing union (EBU) decided at their meeting here last weekend to make Minter the official challenger because of the closeness of the Milan bout, Mr Clarke added.

No date has been fixed for a bout between the two, and European boxing sources said that Tonna might vacate the title in order to take his chance against the world middleweight champion, Rodrigo Valdez, of Colombia.

If this was the case, Minter would probably meet another European middleweight for the vacant title, the sources said.—Reuter.

Ice skating

Cousins's rivals faced with Herculean task

By Dennis Bird

Fresh from his recent victory in the Skate Canada competition, Robin Cousins defends his British figure skating championship at Richmond ice rink today and tomorrow. He has completely recovered from his cartilage operation this year, and is generally recognized as one of the top four or five skaters in the world. He should have little difficulty in winning a second national title.

The championships are again sponsored by Faberge Incorporated. Two other men have entered, but they know they are really competing for second place; it would be a truly Herculean task to dislodge Cousins in his present form. Andrew Bestwick, from Blackpool, aged 18, looks a possible runner-up, although Christopher Howarth (Richmond) may have something to say about that.

The women's winner is much harder to predict. There is a fascinating situation here. Karena Richardson (Deeside, North Wales) has held the title since 1975, but in the last European championship she was beaten by her team colleague, 15-year-od Deborah Cottrill, from Solihull. Miss Richardson is skating well, as she showed when finishing fourth in the Richmond International Trophy three weeks ago. Miss Cottrill's form is more difficult to assess; she competed valiantly in the Skate Canada competition depite a bleeding nose, and her eighth place probably says as much for her determination as for her skill. At her best, she can pose a real threat to the holder.

Piquancy is added by the entry of an unknown quantity from the United States, Teresa Foy. She lives in Los Angeles, but is the daughter of British parents and has British nationality. She was fourth in the last United States Pacific Coast championship and is an American gold medal winner. She is a pupil of Britain's former world pair-skating champion John Nicks. In order to qualify for the British championship she had to work her way through the National Skating Association tests, under the tuition of Nicks's own trainer, Gladys Hogg.

Another American-based entrant, Jacqueline Dean, from Denver, was eighth in her last attempt on the British title in 1975. There are 14 women competitors in all, including the 1976 bronze medal winner Phyllida Beck (Queen's Ice Club) and 17-year-old Wendy Base, of Solihull. Miss Base had to retire last year when she was attacked by a polio virus, but her dauntless courage has enabled her to return quickly to competition.

Alan Beckwith and Ruth Lindsey (Streatham) are defending their pair-skating title against two other entries.

Badminton

Agreement may soon be reached on contracts

By Richard Streeton

Fifteen countries, more than ever before, have entered the team event at next April's European badminton championships, which are being held in England for the first time. The championships take place at the Guild Hall, Preston, from April 9-15. The team event for the Rosenbom Cup occupies the first three days, followed by the individual championships for which entries do not close until March.

Competing nations are placed in groups on the basis of their performances at the last European championships which were held in Dublin in 1976. Denmark, the holders, open their defence on the first day against The Netherlands. England's challenge to regain the cup narrowly lost in Dublin begins against Sweden the same day.

Scotland are in group two with West Germany and the Soviet Union, and Ireland and Wales share group three with Austria and Norway. Group four comprises Switzerland and Belgium, together with Portugal and Italy, who are competing for the first time. France, still in the throes of establishing the game, decided they were not ready to take part, and Czechoslovakia did not enter because of the costs involved.

The English national championships at Coventry from December 8-11 will involve 144 competitors. Derek Talbot and Ray Stevens, who hopes to be fully match-fit after his recent injury, are the joint top seeds in the men's singles, and Mrs Gillian Gilks leads the women's list.

A change will have to be made in one of the pairings for the women's doubles being tried by the national selectors because of Miss Karen Puttick's recent cartilage operation. Miss Puttick who made her first international appearance on England's recent tour of Canada, is making good progress. Her scheduled partner, Miss Karen Bridge may now play with Miss Paula Kilvington in the doubles, as the selectors continue to experiment in preparation for the Uber Cup.

Away from the courts the game continues to try to sort out its present problems. The Badminton Association of England (BAE) today meet equipment manufacturers to discuss players' contracts with firms. It is hoped eventually that agreement will be reached accepting different categories of players, including those not wishing to remain eligible for Olympic recognition, but at least keeping everyone under the aegis of the BAE. "We want to get away from 'them and us' situation with the players; it just is not necessary", a BAE official said yesterday.

John Joiner, secretary of the Badminton Players' Association (BPA) returned to England yesterday after attending the inaugural meeting of the breakaway World Badminton Federation last week in Kuala Lumpur. He will be discussing over the telephone what he learned with his committee members round the world over the next few days, and is then expected to issue a statement. Most of the leading players in the BPA will not have a chance to talk together until the Swedish open championships in January.

Skiing

Slalom success surprises French champion

Crans-Montana, Nov 29.—Fabienne Serrat, of France, the world women's giant slalom champion, won the world series slalom event here today with a combined time (for two runs) of 1min 43.79sec. Hanny Wenzel, of Liechtenstein, was second in 1:44.15 and the World Cup champion, Lise-Marie Morerod, of Switzerland, was third in 1:44.36.

The event was marred by a record number of falls. Only 12 of the 67 starters finished the races, a bump-up in the upper half of the 550-metre course claiming most of the victims. Among those eliminated were Annemarie Moser, of Austria, and Abbi Fisher, of the United States, who was fourth after the first run.

The course was hard under a bright sun, with 60 gates in the first and 56 in the second, faster run. The winner was overjoyed. "It's a real surprise since I haven't concentrated on slalom training", she said. "Also, my goggles came off in the upper half and I lost time in fixing them. It's funny but I was never nervous."

The favoured Mrs Morerod turned in the best intermediate time in the second run, but disappointed the Swiss supporters by slowing down sharply. "I faulted badly shortly after the halfway mark", she said.

Miss Fisher, aged 20, from South Conway, New Hampshire, had 10 gates to go when she fell. "It's not a tragedy", she said. "Doing so well up to 10 makes me confident that I am in good shape."

The Swiss head coach, Hans Schweingruber, disagreed. "I think the race and the many falls showed all girls still need more training on winter snow. Up to now, they have practised on glaciers."

WOMEN'S SLALOM: 1, F. Serrat (France), 54.37sec + 49.42sec=1min 43.79sec; 2, H. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 54.71 + 49.44=1:44.15; 3, L-M. Morerod (Switzerland), 54.86 + 49.50=1:44.36; 4, P. Behr (West Germany), 55.67 + 48.90=1:44.59; 5, I. Eberle (Austria), 56.17 + 49.54=1:45.71; 6, L. Soelkner (Austria), 55.98 + 50.62=1:46.60.—Reuter and AP.

Real tennis

World and US champions meet in first semi-final

By Our Real Tennis Correspondent

Christopher Ronaldson, the professional at the Royal Melbourne club and the United States open champion, will play Howard Angus, the world champion, in the first of tomorrow's semi-final found matches in the open singles tournament, sponsored by Cutty Sark, at Queen's Club. Neither lost a set yesterday in contrast to the two other semi-finalists, Alan Lovell and Norwood Cripps, both of whom were taken to the full distance on Monday.

Angus won easily enough, beating a fellow left-hander, Andrew Windham, 6—2, 6—3, 6—0, at times playing as if he was in a hurry to return to work. Windham like most of Angus's opponents, struggled and tried to stretch his game beyond its capabilities. His play is usually irregular, but, in several games he showed that if he could control his game, he would be a much better player.

The second and penultimate games of the second set were cases in point. Windham had several points for the second game, laid one short chase and conducted some long rallies. Angus had to force to the dedands four times and the grille once before taking the game. The eighth game, which Windham won, was equally long and tenuous.

Ronaldson's win over Michael Dean, who succeeded him as professional at Oxford University, by 6—2, 6—3, 6—2 was not as closely fought as expected. Both are tall and have similar attacking styles, though Dean is a more ardent and forceful volleyer. It made for a fast game but Dean looked brittle against Ronaldson's sounder play on the floor, his numerous short passes and good length.

In the early part of all three sets, Dean managed to hold Ronaldson but then the pressure became too heavy. Dean hit the grille and dedans frequently, but so did Ronaldson who, for instance, laid two short chases and hit the grille twice in the last game of the second set. In the third set, Ronaldson's play around the tambour became deadly and he had a monopoly of the winning gallery.

RESULTS: H. R. Angus beat A. G. Windham, 6—2, 6—3, 6—0; C. J. Ronaldson (Australia) beat M. F. Dean, 6—2, 6—3, 6—2.

Snooker

Former champions beaten

Fred Davis and Ray Reardon, former world champions, were knocked out of the United Kingdom professional snooker championship at Blackpool on Monday night. Davis was beaten 5—0 by Pat Fagan, a 26-year-old London-based player from Dublin. Jim Meadowcroft, from Bacup, eliminated Reardon 5—4. Fagan and Meadowcroft meet in the quarter-final round today.

To complete a night of shocks John Virgo, of Salford, a 16-1 outsider, beat the number three seed, Dennis Taylor, 5—2.

RESULTS: F. Fagan beat F. Davis, 5—0. Scores (Fagan first): 64—48, 77—37, 64—36, 71—41, 68—43; J. Meadowcroft beat R. Reardon, 5—4 (75—46, 55—63, 71—32, 68—47, 37—98, 39—75, 51—50, 31—70, 71—31); G. Miles beat C. Rose, 5—1 (126—76, 97—14, 118—10, 58—42, 95—32, 115—28); J. Virgo beat D. Taylor, 5—2 (76—34, 98—40, 70—40, 45—70, 70—63, 15—76, 82—25).

Hockey

Indian police arrest Spain's hopes

New Delhi, Nov 29.—The Spanish hockey team lost all hopes of entering the semi-final round of the Nehru tournament here today after they were defeated 2—0 in their pool one match by the Central Reserve Police team. Spain had received a big setback yesterday when they were downed 1—0 by the defending champions, Punjab Police.

The Indian Hockey Federation Drak Blues are top of pool one with five points from three matches. They dropped one point toda yafter they were held to a goalless draw by Punjab Police. This was a lack-lustre affair. The policemen forced four penalty corners but failed to capitalize on them.

The England team kept their hopes alive yesterday after beating North-Eastern Railways 1—0 in a pool two match. England did not play today. But elsewhere in pool two, the powerful Indian airlines team dealt a heavy blow to Border Security Force by holding them to a 1—1 draw.—Reuter.

Yachting

British yacht lags 46 min behind after 14,000 miles

Auckland, Nov 29.—A French yacht, 33 Export, took over the handicap lead for the Cape Town to Auckland leg of the Round-the-World ocean race when she arrived here today. The 56ft sloop, skippered by 23-year-old Alain Gabbay, crossed the line well ahead of schedule to beat the provisional handicap leader, King's Legend, of Britain.

The Common Market entry, Traite de Rome, is still well placed to win the stage on corrected time if she arrives by early Thursday. On total corrected time from Portsmouth, where the race started in August, a Dutch boat, Flyer, holds a narrow 46min 50sec lead over King's Legend after 14,000 miles.

Earlier today, Britain's ADC Accutrac, with yachtswoman Clare Francis at the helm, became the sixth boat to finish. She said: "One always expects the southern ocean to get rough but our only real hassel was when the heater broke down—and it got cold."—Agence France-Presse.

Cross-country

Oxford include senior US international

Oxford University have chosen four of last year's winning team for the eighty-seventh cross-country race against Cambridge at Roehampton on Saturday. They include Warwick Ewers, last year's winner, who is running for the seventh and last time.

The captain, Christopher Brodie, was third last year, Nicholas Brawn was an England junior international and Craig Masback is a senior American international over 1500 metres. Oxford, after a successful season with recent victories over Birmingham and London Universities, are confident of beating Cambridge, who are likely to be stronger than last year.

OXFORD: C. J. Althle (George Heriot's, Edinburgh and New College), N. C. S. Brown (Kent College, Canterbury and Oriel), C. N. Brodie (Eton and Magdalen), W. A. Ewers (King Edward's, Birmingham and Worcester), D. Golding (Sexey's GS and Exeter), V. P. Le Grand (Bristol Cathedral and Merton), C. A. Masback (Princeton and Trinity), A. C. Shepherd (Bideford GS and Balliol). Reserve: D. Schlesinger (Yale and Wadham).

Bernard Levin

What happens to humanity when there's dirty work Down Under

I always knew that there was no limit to the *number* of the swineries governments are capable of, but I had never before realized that there is no boundary to their *extent* either. Before, that is, I learnt of the latest action of Mr Malcolm Fraser, Prime Minister of Australia, to whom I can address no words more fitting than a line I recall from a short story of G. K. Chesterton's: "Get a new soul, man; that thing's not fit for a dog." Ever since the fall of South Vietnam, refugees from the new unified state have been fleeing from what has followed the *pax Kissingerensis*. This is not the occasion to discuss conditions in the new Vietnam, though I intend to do so in time; let us just record that thousands have attempted to escape from the country, and that the exodus is still going on.

At first, they went to Thailand, which is, after all, practically next door. Eventually, however, the Thai government decided that it could take no more such refugees; a shabby decision, certainly, but it must be remembered that Thailand is a poor country, and not a particularly strong one, and its very vulnerable position means that its rulers have to keep on good terms with their communist neighbours. The same, to a lesser extent, applies to Malaysia, which has done the same as Thailand.

But the desire to get away from countries like Vietnam is not to be quenched by a single rebuff. (It is, after all, the same desire as that which drives East Germans to risk almost certain death from the guards, dogs, minefields and automatically operated machineguns which line their border with freedom.) Turned away by land, the refugees have taken to the sea, seeking a country, among the islands and archipelagos of Asia and the South Seas, that will take them in. In this tragic armada, thousands have already been drowned trying to get away in boats too small, unsuitable or defective; some, however, have remained afloat long enough to be turned away from more than one neighbouring country. So some, no doubt more daring or perhaps foolhardy than the rest, have set out on a voyage, thousands of miles in extent, to Australia.

There, after all, they would find a haven (it is surely significant that the word with which we describe such people, "refugees", is in the passive mode, and has never seriously been challenged, for supremacy in usage, by the active "escapers", though the latter is more logical). The southernmost station of white Western culture, ideals, democracy and humanity, Australia was as natural a goal for the Vietnamese "boat people" as the United States had been for the persecuted at the end of the nineteenth century, and as certain to take them in.

Some of them got there, through the storms and the sharks, and settled down; lest anyone should have visions of powellite hordes of aliens swamping Australia (area: 7,682,300 sq km) I should point out that the total number of those who have got out since South Vietnam was overrun, and landed in Australia, is at most in four figures (Australian population: 13,502,300).

It is said that some 2,000 more are on their way; one group is on a fishing-boat of trawler size, and may number several score. Australia, apparently determined to retain, and indeed strengthen, her reputation as the armpit of the Southern Hemisphere, has been thrown into a state of panic. The usual refugee stories are circulating; the "boat people" are rich, one brought three servants with him (I am just old enough to remember that last one, in *exactly* that form, being told in Britain about German-Jewish refugees from the Nazis before the Second World War); there have even been strikes and demonstrations against the Vietnamese, organized by the Australian Communist Party—their point being, presumably, that anyone so ungrateful as to wish to leave the Workers' Paradise of the new Vietnam is unfit to live at all, let alone in Australia.

Mr Malcolm Fraser, photographed by Harry Kerr

And at that point, Mr Fraser, Australia's Prime Minister, announced that not only would the refugees at present on the water be refused permission to land if they got to Australia, but that the Australian Navy would be ordered to intercept the boats and "turn them back". The spectacle of a warship bearing down on anything from a fishing-trawler to a rowing boat, ordering its crew (if it has one) to turn it round and head back to the storms, the sharks and the slavery, and firing a shot or two across its bows if the order is not obeyed, is one to make the stomach heave; I cannot believe that the Australian Navy is composed of men like their Prime Minister, and therefore hope that such commands would be tactfully ignored, but the fact that they can be given at all is quite bad enough.

Advance Australia Foul. Mr Fraser, of course, is in the throes of a general election, and fighting, it seems, for his political life. No doubt the chance of simultaneously placating the xenophobic vote and the fellow-travelling vote appealed to him strongly; and what, after all, are a few Vietnamese here or there compared with the sweets of office? Nor can the prayers of those who share my view of Mr Fraser be eagerly solicited on behalf of his opponent in the election; if a Conservative Prime Minister can behave in this fashion, it is hardly to be supposed that a Labour one of Mr Gough Whitlam's stripe will behave any better.

As I have said, Australia is not alone, among the nations of Asia and the Pacific, in this wretched behaviour. But there is some excuse for the others; there is none at all for the richest country on that side of the Equator, a country with literally immeasurable reserves in natural resources, and with no foreseeable limit before the end of the next century to the development of her gigantic land area. What is more, there would still be no excuse for Australia if the Vietnamese refugees were counted in hundreds of thousands, instead of in ones and tens. Once, Australia stood with the United States in her determination that South Vietnam would remain free of communist subjugation; if it comes to that, Australia once enjoyed a reputation for a kind of honest manliness that the effete Europeans had lost. Now, it seems, they prefer to go whingeing (an admirable Australian word, combining "whine" and "cringe") towards the future, while a few hundred poor Vietnamese (or rich Vietnamese, for that matter) float about the southern seas in search of liberty.

Australia votes next week; possibly the majority of the electors will not treat this matter as the most important consideration in their choice of a government, and, as I have suggested, they are hardly likely to affect it by their choice if they do. But there must be some Australians—many, I should hope—who regard their present Prime Minister, for his heroic stand against half a dozen helpless Vietnamese refugees, with condign contempt, and to them I offer, by way of a reminder that the world has not always been full of Malcolm Frasers, those famous lines carved upon the most famous statue of the modern world, which serves as portal to a land which once behaved rather better than Australia does now:

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me:
I lift my lamp beside the golden door.

Is the time ripe for the strange fruits of the consumer grapevine?

The European Communities Commission sponsored a three day symposium on consumer information last week when consumerists from the nine countries of the EEC mixed with government ministers, public authority representatives and diverse academics to consider some 50 papers and presentations all, in some way or other, seeking to answer the question: "What do consumers need to know about the things they are asked to buy, and how should they be told?"

Naturally the answers varied considerably. As ministers' opening speeches made clear, different countries have opted for different approaches. Mr Robert Maclennan, junior minister at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, indulged in a little gentle boasting about British consumer advice centres, without mentioning the local difficulties the Government has had in persuading some local authorities to keep them open.

Mme Scrivener, from France, talked enthusiastically about her PO Box 5000 scheme, which supplies one clearing house address to which all consumer complaints can be sent, to be sorted out and taken up by appropriate experts.

The underlying assumption of almost all the contributions voiced by Mr Richard Burke, the European Commissioner for Consumer Affairs in his welcoming address, was that "the provision of sound, detailed and lucid information must be at the very heart of any effective consumer protection policy."

And to that end there are proposals for EEC directives on labelling foodstuffs, on unit pricing, and on misleading and unfair advertising.

These are but the first fruits of an idea comparatively newly planted. As the symposium proceeded one could watch the proposed consumer grapevine burgeoning, and already beginning to bear strange blossom.

The conference endorsed, or received with apparent approbation, suggestions that, for example, consumer associations should be given free space in newspapers and magazines "proportioned to the general quota of commercial advertising hosted in the newspapers or magazines concerned", and that consumer protection should be a compulsory subject of education in both primary and secondary schools.

The French proved most eager for informative labelling schemes. It was even complained, from their camp, that EEC regulations forebade French wine shippers putting as much information on their labels as the French authorities would regard as the minimum required.

The constant proliferation of brands and products, it was said repeatedly, must be matched with more and more information about everything. Governments must provide more, companies must provide more, and consumer associations must be given government grants so that they too can provide more.

The escalating excitement of this almost universal enthusiasm for information reached it apogee on the last day, with a contribution by Dr Hans Thorelli, professor in the graduate school of business at Indiana University.

Dr Thorelli looked into a future thick with consumer information programmes. As incomes rise and competing products abound, daily papers will be filled with "market overviews based on producer specifications, and independent product reviews".

People will shop from home using picture-phones and two-way cable television to learn about their intended purchases. The Post Office's Viewdata project, linking the telephone to the home television screen, might be used to enable customers to dial up screensful of information at a time.

"It may soon be economically feasible", exulted Dr Thorelli, "for individual households to be linked to large central computer facilities by means of input-output terminals attached to their telephone or TV. The next breakthrough will be computerized consumer information."

There will, the doctor predicted, be computerized data banks filled with detailed information about the products and their precise availability at all local supply centres before the end of the century.

And how will consumers cope? someone cried at last. Dr Thorelli was confident. Even the educationally underprivileged could be taught to type, couldn't they? They should have no trouble handling a computer terminal.

Maybe, but one can only remark that this heady vision of an automated and information-packed future is far removed indeed from the present day realities.

Buried among the conference papers, and afforded relatively scant attention during the proceedings, were two papers submitted by Mrs Jennifer Drayton and Miss Margaret Wallace of Strathclyde University. Their researches should have destroyed the mounting euphoria at a stroke.

Succinctly stated, they found that consumers already ignore, or misapply, the information they are given, and that to give more information is liable to add to confusion.

Research into a Swedish furniture labelling scheme, for example, showed that less than two per cent of people who bought pieces with carefully detailed and informative labels attached had even looked at the labels before they took the plunge.

Another piece of Strathclyde research concerned the use of price surveys comparing the local prices for basic foods and household necessities. Preparing such surveys has been a principal activity of Britain's boasted consumer advice centres.

It was found that awareness of the surveys among shoppers was not high, though it was higher among the lower socio-economic groups the surveys were principally intended to help. Yet of a small sample of 64 in which 13 in the lower socio-economic group had heard of the survey, 11 of the 13 said they had never found any reason to refer to the information it offered. The team found only one housewife who always used the price survey when doing her shopping.

So there is a more difficult question to answer than the ones with which the symposium principally concerned itself. It is: "What price do you put on consumer information when nobody wants to know?"

Robin Young

For European man in the year 2000, life could be a Kibbutz-style Utopia a long way from the big cities

More and more people seem to believe that not even the most virtuoso re-juggling of the old economic formulae will end the present recession and reduce unemployment to the levels of the 1950s and 1960s. Something more drastic is needed: a change in the way we live and think.

Not many politicians appear so far to be of this persuasion, perhaps because their stock ideological reflexes look irrelevant when the nature of the problem is examined, or are seen to be its cause Governor Jerry Brown of California, visiting London today, is a notable exception. Those who share his belief that a new approach to life is needed will find powerful support in *Europe 2000*, just published by Duckworth at the futuristic price of £12, after seven years of research by more than 200 experts in 10 European countries, and with no less than £1.75m of backing from the Holland-based European Cultural Foundation.

It has been edited and to a considerable extent written by Peter Hall, Professor of Geography at Reading University, with contributions from a distinguished European team including Bertil Jönsson, director of corporate planning at Volvo's headquarters.

The book is remarkable not so much for the novelty of its findings as for its massively-funded and heavily-researched vindication of the ideas of such writers as Ivan Illich, Lewis Mumford and the late Ernst Schumacher, which have already been largely borne out by events.

Few people would probably quibble at Mr Hall's selection of looming problems. He includes the decline in Europe's competitive power in the mass production of industrial goods, complemented by the rise of industrializing nations like Iran, Brazil and South Korea; Europe's dangerous dependence on imported raw materials (one idea which has sunk home); the disenchantment of young industrial workers with assembly line production, still masked by immigrant labour; growing dependence on professional bureaucracies; and the danger of such groups as immigrant workers and unemployed school leavers feeling excluded from society.

The list of notional remedies is by now almost equally familiar (Mr Hall was struck by the similarity of the basic ideas for the transformation of society to meet the challenges ahead). Among those he examines are: the need to conserve resources; a preference for using tools rather than being used by machines, and a new emphasis on quality and durability; and the reorganization of social and economic life in small-scale units somewhere between a *kibbutz* and a new town, with advances in telecommunications cutting out much unnecessary travel.

The Europe of the year 2000, he suggests, will be a transitional society between the one we know and one as different as the middle ages. In a "caricature stressing change", he envisages a European family living in a converted farmhouse on the edge of a hill area between 70 and 150 km from a major city. In accordance with the EEC energy act of 1982, it is heavily insulated against heat loss, has a windmill to reduce electricity costs, recycles farm refuse for fuel, and draws on solar energy.

The house is in a small hamlet abandoned during the great European agricultural depopulation of the 1950s. There is a primary school shared with other clusters of around 200 people, and a community centre. Retirement has been abolished, and work roles are very flexible.

Class barriers and pay differentials have been eroded. Owing to strikes and discontent in big urban factories in the 1970s and 80s, the big multinationals have decentralized many operations to small workshop units in the new rural communes. Most people do some work on the mixed, labour-intensive farms. It is a real community marked by a partial return to the extended family or caring group of earlier ages, with work, including child-rearing, being shared by men and women.

Exaggerated, Utopian, not economically viable? Certainly still a minority way of life, but one that will spread, Mr Hall believes, and a scenario which even the industrialists in the research groups were prepared to accept.

When I put the doubter's view to him, he pointed out that workers were already beginning to react against large-scale organizations. The team's researches suggested that components in particular could be produced in smaller units.

Mr Hall saw no contradiction between a continuing trend towards bigness and a parallel trend towards better quality and more specialized production (bigger supermarkets, and more health shops). Movement into the suburbs and even small towns accompanied the great growth of urban areas of the 1950s and 60s. It was now the small towns, not the big cities which were dynamic, he said.

"It's not some kind of Utopian thing which has everyone in beads and sandles engaged in crafts. It's a natural evolution of post-industrial society; not a reversion to the middle ages, but exploiting the fact that you can produce on a smaller scale, linked to large-scale production," he said.

Mr Hall concludes *Europe 2000* with a plea to governments to devote more resources to trying to anticipate problems, rather than spending vast sums on grappling with them when they appear. Perhaps forecasts of even higher unemployment will help to persuade European leaders that some fresh thinking along the lines sketched out in this very stimulating book is overdue.

Roger Berthoud

THE TIMES DIARY/PHS

The monarchy goes to the wall, but in fun

A sense of humour, opined Prince Charles once, is what had kept him sane. This morning, at London's Press Club in the International Press Centre, the Prince will have a rare opportunity to indulge that sense of humour by studying the way in which royalty-watchers have indulged theirs.

He will open an exhibition of 135 cartoons, all inspired by the monarchy. He will not look for, nor will he find, sycophancy. He will have been forewarned, anyway, by the name of the exhibition, Not by Appointment, though the exhibits (with a few unflattering republican and surrealist exceptions) manage a very nice line in respect.

Some of the cartoonists turned up at yesterday's press preview. Cummings of the *Daily Express*, was there, and he is well represented on the walls. He told me he was sorry to find that the one cartoon of his which he knows is now at Buckingham Palace is not on view at the Press Club.

It shows the royal coach being showered with foreign currency, thrown by visitors, while the Duke of Edinburgh confides to the Queen: "This is the only nationalized industry that is making a thumping profit."

The first things the Prince will see as he enters the exhibition are four cartoons of various Princes of Wales, including one of himself—as an astronaut—by Barry Fantoni.

He will be reminded of the savageness with which past cartoonists assailed the monarchy: Gillray's caricature of George IV, for instance, showing a swollen voluptuary, listless after a mighty session of gorging.

Not by Appointment opens to the public this afternoon and runs in aid of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal, until December 9.

What a gas

A Kensington reader has sent my colleague Bernard Levin a cutting from *The Times* which advertises a post with British Gas. This anonymous reader *suggests that such is the quality* of the PR carried out for British Gas by the Levin column that it was inevitable that the power industry would go in search of a tutor.

Applications are invited for a Tutor in Human Relations at the National Management Centre which British Gas is in the process of setting up. The job, based at Stratford-upon-Avon, carries a salary of up to £7,402.

The selected tutor will "take specific responsibility for developments in the area of organizational behaviour and human relations". An academic qualification in "the behavioural sciences" is desirable, supported "by experience in a business school type environment". Need anyone say more?

Bing still sings at Christmas

The last recording of Bing Crosby, which was made at the BBC's Maida Vale studio only three days before the star's death, will be transmitted during a special, hour-long, Radio 2 Christmas show on December 27 at 11 am.

After his appearance at the London Palladium with Rosemary Clooney, Bing went to the studio on October 11 to chat to Radio 2 presenter Alan Dell. He sang various numbers live, among them *Once in a While*, *The Night is Young* and *As Time Goes By*.

The following day Bing flew to Spain and, as we now know, two days later played his last game of golf. During the recording, I am told, he was "in good form and seemed perfectly well".

The programme's producer, Lawrie Monk, adds: "The whole programme was set up in a matter of days. When Bing made the recording for us, he sang eight songs which were a mixture of nostalgia and current releases".

It was a satisfied, even proud, John Uding who returned to Amsterdam airport from London. It is, after all, not every day that a man is elected president of the Confederation of European Pest Control Associations. The glow of satisfaction dimmed and went out when he got into his parked car. It was infested with mice. Chocolate had been nibbled and papers chewed up to make a nest. Even the map of Amsterdam had been eroded; in place of the location of his company's offices in the city there was now a jagged hole. Mr Uding, head of the Rentokil company in The Netherlands, has not entirely ruled out revenge as the motive.

Unfair display

Another Berlin blockade seemed imminent the other day when some Welsh soldiers swapped four copies of a well-known girlie magazine for a fur hat from their Russian comrades in the East.

An official Soviet protest followed, not because of the infiltration of Western decadence, but because the Welshmen had thoughtfully removed the centre-page spread of Miss Whatsit-of-the-month before effecting the exchange.

I understand that Major-General Roy Redgrave himself, GOC in the British sector, had to order a search of barrack room walls for the elusive ladies before the Red Army could be mollified.

Rude awakening

The cut and thrust of debate in the New South Wales parliament makes enlivening reading, particularly when it involves Mr Neville Wran, QC, the Premier, as shown by this extract from a Hansard report which has just reached me:

Mr Wran: I shall answer the supplementary question of the honourable member for Pittwater. I am surprised that he is still awake; it is the first time he has been awake during question time since he became a member of this Parliament. (Interruption.)

Mr Wran: Some Opposition members on the front bench show surprise—but we can see him and hear him snoring up there.

A case of mind over matter: it's just horse sense

I have cheering news this morning for any horses who might be slumping under the weight of an inferiority complex. It is this: clever though Man is, he can still be improved by a little horse sense.

This is the conclusion I have drawn from the announcement that MENSA, that assemblage of superbrains, is putting a candidate through some intensive training for an international contest to be held in London on Saturday.

The event is being organized by Invicta, makers of Master Mind, the deductive coloured pegs game that Sherlock Holmes would have adored.

The MENSA candidate is Nicholas Mitchell, aged 25, a trainee actuary, from Hampstead, London. He has been put through practice sessions designed to make him impervious to such distractions as exploding flashlights, dropped articles, moved chairs, coughs and nervous laughter (though not his own, presumably).

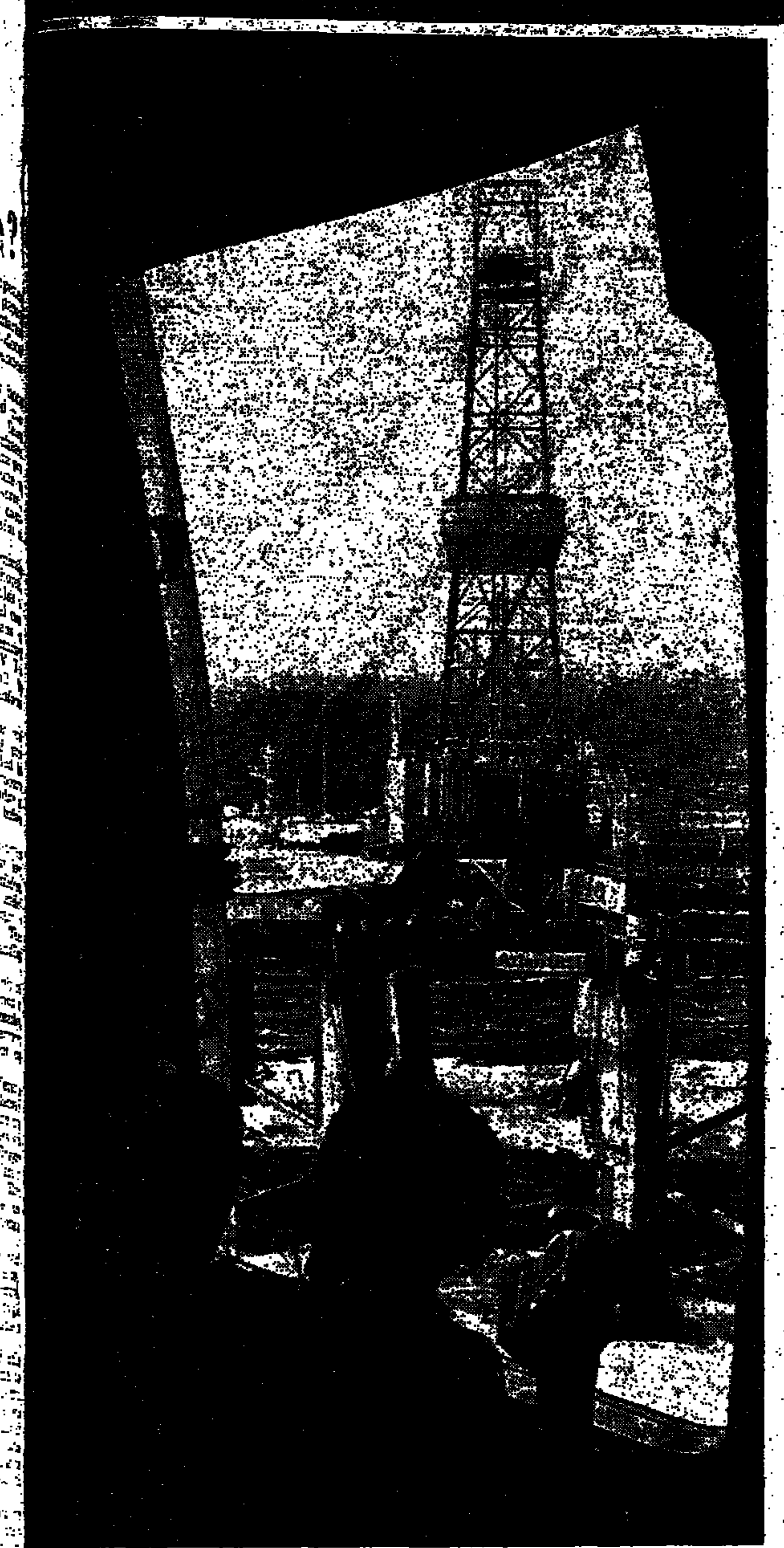
Horses being got ready for ceremonial occasions have to undergo similar preparation, I am reliably informed. And even though their IQ must be lower than Mr Mitchell's (177), they soon latch on to what is expected of them. More than that, they have been known to put many a fainting Guardsman to shame on hot days.

To keep his grey matter in trim for the Master Mind contest, Mr Mitchell has been spending the weekends at Cambridge University's department of advanced mathematics, playing against a computer. I am assured his success rate is high.

me ripe
strange
of the
grapevine?

NORWAY

a Special Report



The Atlantic I oil platform, built in Bergen, on its way to the North Sea. Oil and gas have greatly raised Norway's international credit rating.

Sudden wealth brings new sense of importance

by Derry Hogue

Norway has expanded its way through the recent recession to the point where its prosperity now matches its geography—top of the world.

The latest OECD figures show that the Norwegians have passed the Swedes and the Swiss to enjoy the world's highest standard of living. Despite this big economic jump, they have kept their countryside almost entirely unspoilt and maintained a remarkable, though slightly stolid, social cohesion; but the new wealth has also landed them with a previously unknown sense of international importance, and of complication.

It was the huge offshore oil and gas find of the 1960s which allowed the Norwegians to take a firm hold in this decade of an immensely increased international credit rating and borrow themselves into their present good fortune. There is no doubt that Norway can look forward to equal affluence in the next decade.

For the immediate future, though, the economy will, by British standards, enjoy a luxurious pause while oil revenues begin to gush in and pay off a staggering debt for a country of only four million people. At the end of this year the foreign debt is expected to be 75,000m kroner (£7,500m).

If the sudden new wealth has settled Norway on a high economic plateau, it has also brought Norwegian politics on to a different plane, with some significant patterns emerging from the September 12 elections for the unicameral Storting (Parliament).

In one sense, the elections buried an old issue which had divided all parties in the 1973 elections—whether to join the EEC—and voters returned to their traditional socialist and non-socialist sides of the electoral fence. But they also brought much closer attention to what is now developing as the most important political question: how much further say the state should have over everyday economic and social life.

The long-ruling Labour Party, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, Mr Odvar Nordli, was returned with regained strength, winning 32.2 per cent of the vote and 76 of the 155 Storting seats to make it the biggest single party in Parliament.

It managed this on a main campaign plank of maintaining full employment, (at present a negligible 0.7 per cent of the workforce is looking for a job). The Labour Party picked up 14 of the 16 seats formerly held by the Socialist Left Party, which during the trouble over the EEC had gained support from Labour's traditional supporters among industrial workers in the main cities.

However, one of the most significant developments was the gains for the Conservative Party, a city-based party closer to the policies of the British Liberal Party than its British namesake. The Conservatives for the first time this century emerged as a future national opposition.

The Conservative Party contested all 18 voting districts throughout Norway for the first time in its history and pulled off a mild strategic coup in the western coastal and fiord region from Kragero up to Molde, where strongly rural and Lutheran traditions have been reflected through the Christian Democrats.

By entering a formal election alliance with the Centre and Christian parties, the Conservatives were able to remove many of the rural "bible belt" suspicions held against the "city slickers" and in an area of 50 seats picked up nine. This is particularly important because the election also saw a swing to the Conservatives elsewhere, and to the Christian Democrats from the Centre Party, whose representation in the Storting has fallen to 12 seats from 21 seats in 1973.

Cities fear further state power

It also seems that the Conservatives will gain the upper hand in the cities among the better educated and higher income groups who, while favouring liberal social policies such as the right of abortion on request, are fearful of further state power. This is a voting area of privately admitted concern to senior Labour Party officials. More and more people will move into this category as Norway moves into an advanced technological and service economy requiring fewer of the traditional industrial workers in its increasingly automated industries.

The other main issue heightened by the oil and gas discoveries is that of the environment, and this is increasingly likely to cut across all parties. The mishap on the Bravo platform in the Ekofisk field in the North Sea in April gave added weight to demands to slow down the pace of life. It certainly dampened any public enthusiasm to push ahead quickly to develop fields north of the 62nd Parallel. The near disaster has also ensured much stricter state controls over all offshore activities. Anti-Labour forces say this will only extend the pattern of state control to cover areas outside the environment both offshore and within the hydroelectric-based industries.

The new rural and urban alliance within the Conservative Party is still too young to pose any threat to the Government now or even possibly at the next election. However, in the meantime, Labour, with an effective majority of only one on most issues, will be looking hard within itself on the question of further state control.

Mr Nordli sits at the centre of the party and from now to Christmas will be presiding over differences on the allocation of leases in the Gold Block area of the North Sea.

Mr Bjartmar Gjerde, Minister of Industry, is said to lean to the side favouring some private participation. The party chairman, Mr Reiulf Steen, and vice-chairman, Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, who is Minister of the Environment, argue for complete control by the state oil company, Statoil. Mr Per Kleppe, Minister of Finance, would, in British terms, be to the right of Mr Nordli within the party, but he is in favour of Statoil control and not so much on the grounds of socialist ideology as because of the need for integrated economic planning and because he wants the revenue. At present he is also ministerially responsible for the massive subsidies given to private enterprise to help to maintain some ailing industries.

Of more immediate concern to the ministers is a Cabinet reshuffle which is expected early in January. So important is the oil and gas industry that the Ministry of Industry is to be divided into two. There will be a special ministry for oil and energy as well as for industry in general.

One man whose excellent international performance has perhaps been unrewarded in domestic Norwegian politics is Mr Jens Evensen, Minister for the Law of the Sea. He is likely to understand the mixed fortunes of Herr Willy Brandt, whose world standing was not always matched at home. Mr Evensen is often credited with being a mainstay of the Law of the Sea conference and with contributing much to international maritime law. But in some quarters it is suggested that he may suffer in the Cabinet reshuffle because he conceded too much ground to the Russians in negotiations over a temporary fishing zone in the Barents Sea after a meeting in June.

It is generally agreed that Mr Nordli has a long rule ahead. But the standing of Mr Steen, who has a rural background and yet a sophisticated political grasp, can only rise. He is often said to be more conservative in private than he makes out in public.

Likewise Mrs Brundtland's career should only wax. She not only has a popular appeal because of her good looks, but she provides a good example of the lack of social divisiveness within Norwegian political life.

'Grey zone' at sea adds to poor relations with Russia

The North Sea oil and gas discoveries have taken Norway out of its quiet Scandinavian niche to face a greatly enhanced and yet complicated standing in its foreign relations.

To its immediate neighbours, Norway now equals Sweden as the main centre of focus in the north, ending what was for so long an admitted inferiority complex about being the provincial cousins. This new-found attention is even sharper than that of Sweden among Third World countries where Norway's liberal voice has been backed up by the world's highest per capita (1 per cent of gnp) aid contribution.

Earlier this month, Mr Michael Manley, Prime Minister of Jamaica, was in Oslo for talks with Mr Odvar Nordli, the Norwegian Prime Minister. As a result of the visit Norway and Jamaica are to exchange embassies, and even more significantly, set up a joint commission to promote industrial development. Norway is likely to supply money with technological experience and establish training centres in return for continued supplies of Jamaican alumina.

This type of joint activity is already part of national policy and is concentrated mostly in Africa, particularly East Africa. Embassies have been set up in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam solely to expand Norway's quite passionate national belief in a new world economic order. This conscience cannot be dismissed on the grounds that such a policy can only lead to increased Norwegian trade opportunities. Already some traditional industries such as textiles, clothing and shoes, have suffered directly as a result of largely unrestricted entry of competition from countries with a cheap labour force.

But if Norway has gained prestige in the Third World, its greater economic strength has only brought difficulty to its relations with Russia.

To the Norwegian public, relations with Russia are felt to be increasingly tense, although this would appear to be a slight exaggeration of what are really cool disagreements over rights of access in the Barents Sea.

These differences are not going to be resolved within the next few years and there is likely to be increased Russian pressure. Norway, which is tiny in comparison with its giant neighbour, will be attempting to reach a very delicate balance: it will have to continue to avoid tension and yet remain solid in its determination to protect its interests.

The big differences exist in defining a border to extend northwards out to sea from the undisputed short (160 miles) land border above the Arctic Circle.

The Norwegians want the border to be taken from a line heading north-east, the median line, to take into account the continental shelf of the arctic island of Spitzbergen (Svalbard) over which they have had sovereignty for the past 52 years. The Russians want the border to be based on a sector line heading due north and well to the west of the Norwegian claim.

The disputed area, known as the grey zone, is of about 25,000 sq miles, and an impasse has been reached with the setting-up of joint Soviet-Norwegian control of young fishing stocks in the region. Although further talks are expected in Moscow next month, Norway has reserved for itself the right to maintain controls in an overlapping zone it has declared for fishing control extending 200 miles east from Spitzbergen.

The grey zone and the overlapping Spitzbergen fishing zone are not just of immediate concern to the present access to fishing stocks nor even the potential of oil and gas finds. Instead it is of vital strategic significance to the Russians who have built up the world's biggest military installation on the Kola peninsula, just east of the land border.

The Kola establishment includes an estimated 70 per cent of the Soviet nuclear submarine fleet based at Murmansk: a total of about 180 submarines, 90 of them nuclear, and about 500 surface vessels. It is the only area which remains unfrozen in winter and is the most direct way out to the Atlantic, the North Sea and the eastern seaboard of the United States.

Norway has traditionally sought to minimize tension in the region by prohibiting any permanent Nato bases on its soil although it supports regular Nato exercises and has built up a network of airfields and seaports for quick landing should any crisis occur.

It was only earlier this year that these Nato exercises included a mobile hospital unit from West Germany, the first time since the Second World War that a German wearing any kind of military uniform had been allowed into the country. It seemed the final symbol of the now fully normalized relations with Germany, ending what was such a sensitive issue owing to the German invasion violating Norwegian neutrality during the war.

Otherwise, relations with Europe, especially Britain, continue to be close with no more than the expected problems to be sorted out over fishing zones. It was at the southern limits of the Norwegian 200-mile offshore zone a few weeks ago that Norway illustrated its determination to maintain its extended boundaries. British trawlers were ordered out after it was discovered the EEC quota allocation had been reached.

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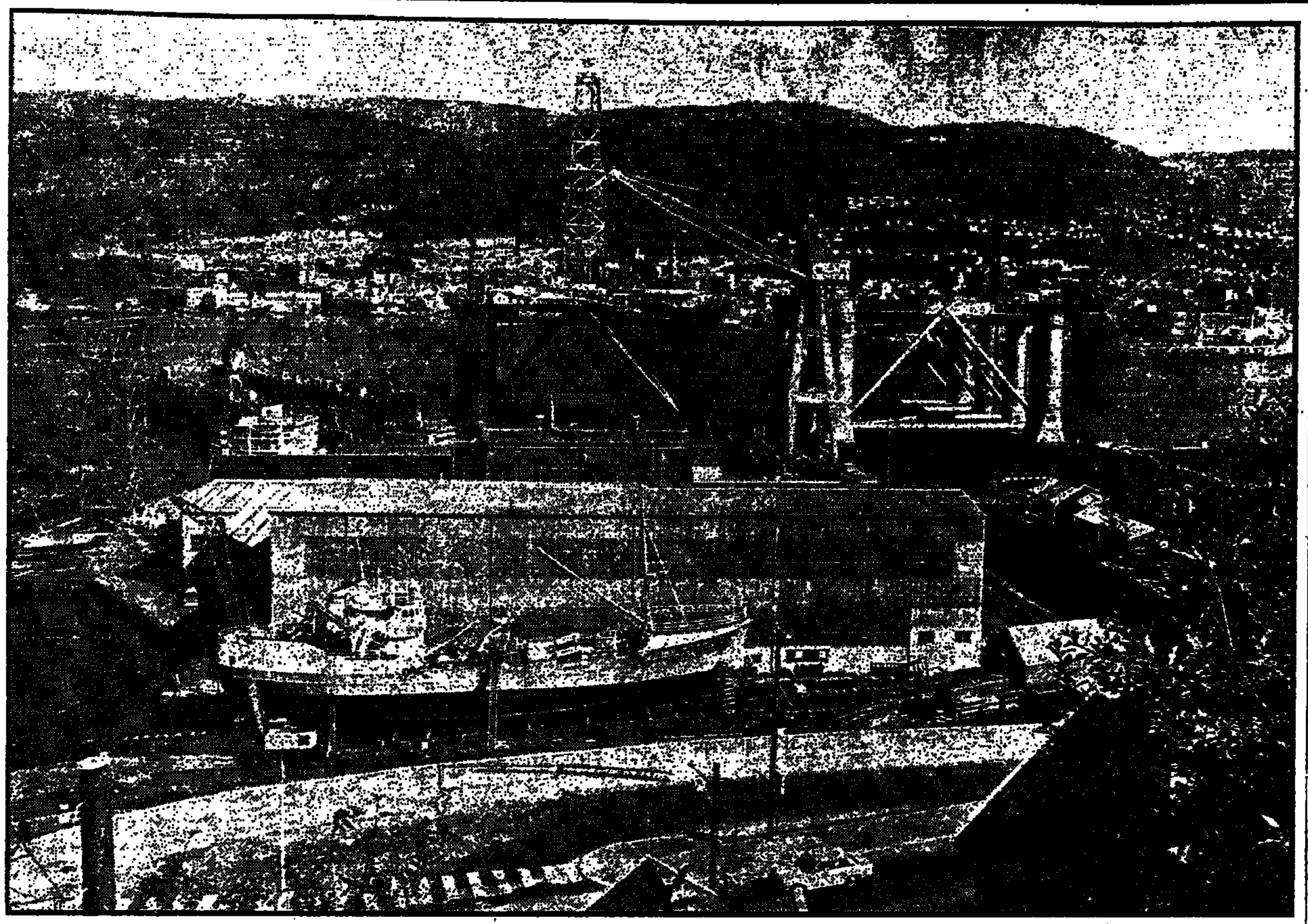
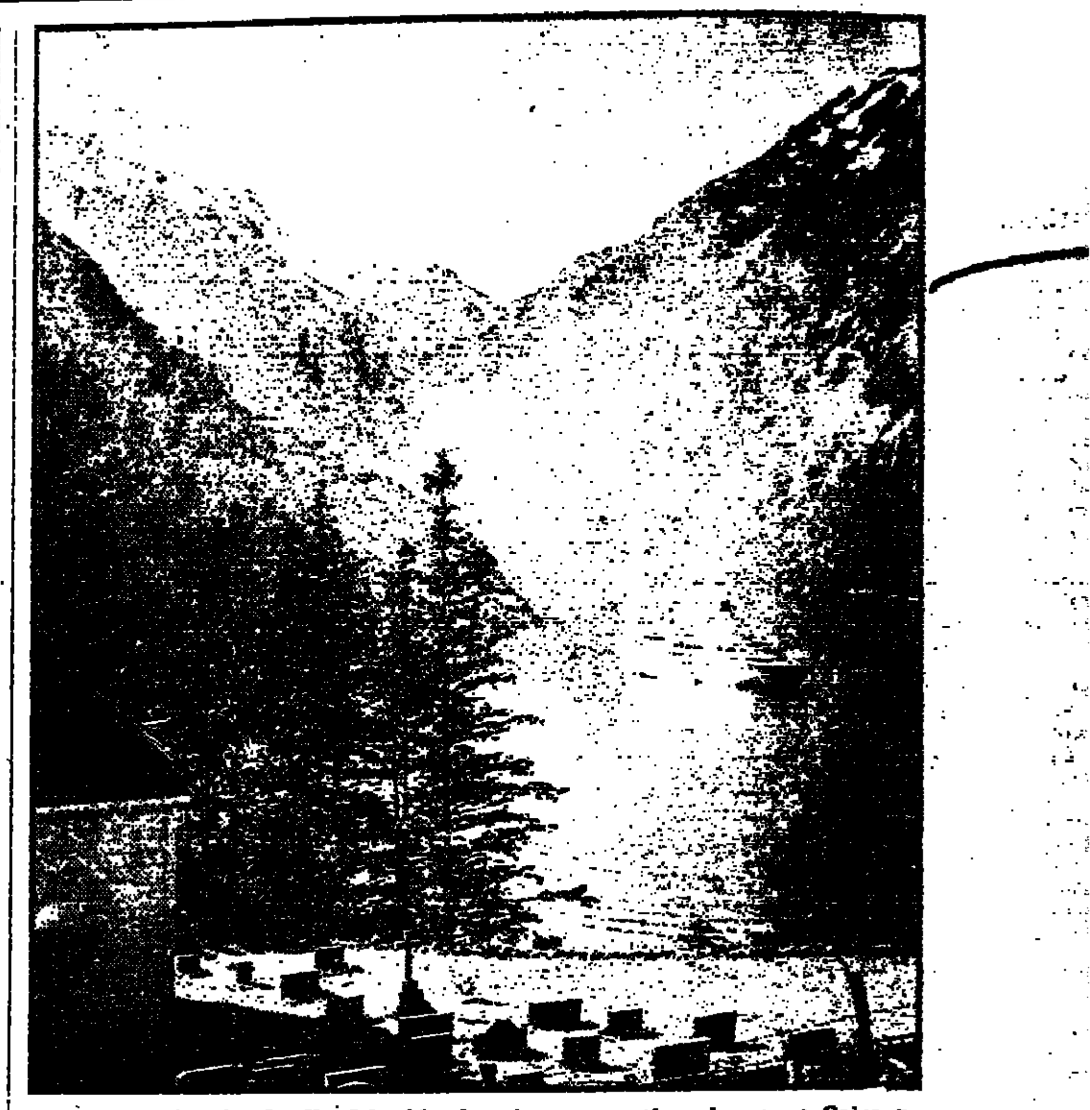


An oil-drilling platform being fitted out at the BMV shipyard, Bergen.



A ship at anchor in the fiord beside the picturesque tiny church at Geiranger.

Shipping grapples with crisis

by Peter Hill

More than five years ago as the oil industry and the rich independent tanker owners fell over themselves to find berths in shipyards for their orders for ever larger oil tankers, one of Norway's leading tanker operators, Sig Bergesen, ordered two massive 412,000 tons deadweight tankers in Japan.

At that time the pattern of steady growth in demand for oil and its transportation looked set for many years ahead. But when the events of the following year were assimilated—the steep rise in the price of crude oil, the embargoes initiated by the Arab members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries—the oil industry and the shipowners joined in an even more hectic rush to cencel their contracts. The shipping world is still grappling with the problems which emerged in the wake of the 1973 Middle East war—massive shipbuilding overcapacity, huge surpluses of tankers and uneconomic freight rates.

But one man had read the market (or backed his instinct) more accurately than most of his competitors—Mr Sig Bergesen. Months before the war Bergesen sold the two tanker contracts held by Mitsui in Japan and collected an estimated profit of $40m on the transaction. It was a quite amazing coup but typical of the Norwegian shipping fraternity's skill. Others, of course, have not been so fortunate and the crisis has claimed more than a fair share of Norwegian casualties. But Mr Bergesen and others have survived and now at 83 he has surprised the shipping world again earlier this year when he ordered two 320,000 ton tankers from Mitsui and that, at a time when the tanker shipping industry was (and for that matter still is) predicting a surplus for several years ahead.

Companies continue to succumb to the overwhelming pressures. One of Norway's oldest established shipping companies, Fearnley and Eger has in the past few weeks managed to surmount a serious financial crisis with total liabilities of 1,300m kroner with the help of its major creditors. The alternative was liquidation or bankruptcy.

The tanker crisis has bitten hard and deep into Norway's shipping establishment. At the beginning of August this year against the background of the continuing depression in freight markets, 322 tankers amounting to more than 31 million tons were laid up by their owners around the world. More than one fifth of the idle tankers, amounting to 8,200,000 tons, were owned by Norwegian companies.

Small wonder then that the Norwegian independent tanker owners have been the prime movers in attempts by Intertanko, the Association of Independent Tanker Owners and by the International Maritime Industry Forum, to attempt to bring about some order out of the chaos. More failures are expected and more rescue bids will be inevitable, unless there is a significant improvement in world trade soon which will soak up some of the surplus tonnage now lying idle, more owners will find themselves under pressure from creditors.

Gross earnings will rise slightly this year

The impact of the world recession on the Norwegian shipping industry can be gauged from the latest forecasts of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics. This year the shipping industry is expected to generate gross earnings abroad of 17,440m kroner—a slight rise on last year—with net freight earnings also slightly up on 1976 at 8,720m kroner. But the industry's overall current account surplus this year is expected to fall to 1,970m kroner compared with 2,248m kroner the previous year and a peak of 9,355m kroner in 1974.

But, apart from the tanker sector, 93 per cent of the Norwegian fleet is still in service and the industry has been encouraged by the Government's clear and firm commitment to maintain and develop a strong shipping industry. But industry leaders remain concerned on a number of issues which could undermine the industry's future, not least their government's restrictive attitude towards Norwegian shipping activities under foreign flags by participation in international joint ventures, coupled with worries about protectionist shipping policies being deployed by both developed and developing countries and the growth of Eastern block shipping.

The tightly knit and highly secretive Norwegian shipping community has shown its resilience in the past and with a modern and efficient fleet to be deployed will undoubtedly return to better times but overriding all other considerations is concern at the effects of government policies worldwide in relation to the problems of the shipbuilding industry. Norway's shipowners have no doubt at all that the attempts by the international shipping industry to bring about a greater balance in the market are being jeopardized by government aid policies for shipbuilding.

Mr Charles Bergesen, president of the Norwegian Shipowners' Association is unequivocal on this central issue: "Norway must develop—and induce other countries to pursue—a shipbuilding policy whose main objective is to reduce the over-capacity in shipbuilding. Support should be given to other activities and aid should be given to a scrapping programme which can regenerate the market for new vessel contracts."

But the Norwegian Government has been in the forefront of providing succour to the 34,000 workers in the country's shipbuilding industry—and its policies have come under attack from other shipbuilding nations. Its policies have been dictated by social and political expediency, since, as in many other shipbuilding nations, employment in shipbuilding tends to be in areas of already high unemployment or in communities where there is little alternative employment.

A variety of measures has been introduced to assist the industry. They include an easing of credit terms so that Norwegian owners ordering ships in Norwegian yards are able to obtain credit to 80 per cent of the contract price repayable over 12 years and to compensate for the gap between Norwegian and foreign yard prices; an owner is able to deduct up to 25 per cent of contract price from his taxable income without reducing normal depreciation allowances.

The Government has introduced a restructuring and employment loan fund for the shipbuilding industry to provide "soft" loans to facilitate the conversion of yards to other activities. Measures have also been introduced to advance orders for government-owned vessels but the most controversial element of the Norwegian shipbuilding package has been its campaign to attract orders from developing countries.

Under this scheme support is given in the form of reduced interest rates and grace periods on long-term financing, and the discounted grant element constitutes a genuine aid element of at least 25 per cent. Through this method the Government remains within the shipbuilding export credit guidelines laid down by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

It has been successful. Since the scheme was introduced orders worth about 2,000m kroner have been secured from developing countries and, despite scepticism and suspicions expressed by rivals, the Government steadfastly maintains that on none of these transactions have the OECD guidelines been contravened.

So successful has the shipbuilding aid package been that between the end of June and the end of September the Norwegian shipbuilding industry increased the size of its order book from 858,040 tons to 1,024,980 tons and was one of only five nations to increase their order books in that time against the general trend of continued reductions.

The author is Industrial Correspondent, The Times.

State's bigger role in control of banks

by Ronald Pullen

The reelection of the Labour-Socialist coalition last September finally dashed any hopes the Norwegian banking system may have harboured that it would manage to escape at the eleventh hour government legislation to "democratize" the banks.

With the proposals due to take effect from January 1 the only issue left to be settled is the position of existing shareholders in the commercial banks. Investors who are unhappy with this further encroachment of state power will be entitled under the existing proposals to sell their holdings to the state either at market prices next January or at the average price of the shares over the past three years, whichever is the higher.

This formula has aroused a good deal of opposition. There has been general concern that the "democratization" plans would so accentuate the weakness in bank shares that it would almost amount to back-door nationalization. More particularly, the compensation terms have been reckoned unacceptable on the ground that bank shares have been under something of a cloud ever since the royal commission to review the banking system was set up more than three years ago, even though it gave the banks a reasonably clean bill of health.

Commercial bank shares last handsomely outperformed the rest of the market in 1975, when the Bank of Norway markedly eased its stance on credit control. But this year shares have drifted lower despite easier credit conditions, more optimistic noises in bank annual reports and dividend increases.

One alternative that has been mooted has been that compensation should be based on net asset value. The dispute has moved into the high courts so it is likely that it will be some time before shareholders finally know one way or another what they can expect to receive.

As it is, bankers seem to be taking a more relaxed attitude towards the Government's legislation to place more state appointees on the board of representatives, the body responsible for appointing the bank's executive directors.

Trends towards a more socially responsible attitude

For one thing, the last couple of years has seen a marked movement in the trends towards a more socially responsible attitude on behalf of the whole of Norwegian industry with no obvious deleterious effects. For another, there has been some reassurance as a result of the Government's acceptance that public appointees should reflect political representation in the Storting and there are still a number of constituencies without Socialist majorities.

While the underlying philosophy of the Government's democratization plans is to shift the commercial banks' priority away from the interest of shareholders and more towards the requirements of the whole country, few bankers expect there to be any really significant alterations in lending policy as a result of changes in the make-up of boards of representatives.

Meanwhile, in an economy that has by and large managed to ride the storms of the world recession, greater attention has had to be paid this year to the mushrooming government borrowing requirement and the sharp rise in personal consumption, which in turn has meant a high priority being given to credit control policy.

So far this year it has proved difficult to confine credit expansion of the commercial and savings banks within the stated budgetary limits. In part this has been due to a sharp increase in lending by the State banks and this has reactivated a growing complaint in the private banking sector that they are having to bear too much of the strain of the Government's credit control policy, especially as it already works at a disadvantage to the state banks which can lend more cheaply to important sectors of the economy.

Despite a 1 per cent tightening of the primary reserve requirement in January this year, bank liquidity was fairly easy early on, although it then started to tighten up after Bank of Norway sales of foreign exchange. But in general the banks were little constrained in their lending until the credit policy measures last May.

Those measures proved an over-corrective and, to ease liquidity, seven commercial and four savings banks were allowed to increase their borrowings from the central bank. The resulting surge in lending, especially by the commercial banks, forced the Government to increase again the primary reserve requirement of the commercial banks from 6½ to 8 per cent and the savings banks from 5½ to 6 per cent in July, as well as increasing the penalty rate of interest for banks that failed to match those reserve requirements.

Earlier this month there came a further tightening of the monetary screws when the Government told commercial and savings banks in southern Norway—banks with head offices in the north are exempt because of the particular economic difficulties of the region—that their reserve requirements with the central bank would have to be increased by another 1 per cent which would take a further 1,000m kroner out of the system.

Even with all this chopping and changing of credit policy, however, there has been a sharp increase in advances by the banking system. The commercial banks had already lent 3,600m kroner by July, which was the earlier government ceiling for the whole of 1977 and worse still, for the Government if not the banks, most of that increase has been in the personal sector. Similarly the savings banks increased their lending by some 16 per cent in the first half, again mainly to the personal sector, and have overshot their budgetary targets for the year.

With domestic banking being something of a variable feast, the leading banks have continued to put their back into overseas expansion. The main change in recent years has probably been a conceptual one, in that the banks no longer see themselves as simply serving the needs of Norwegian companies operating internationally but as competitors in their own right in the whole international banking business. There is a growing hope that Norwegian banks will be able to escape the limitations of a restricted capital base once oil revenues start to come through.

The author is Banking Correspondent, The Times.

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North Sea riches regarded as a mixed blessing

by Rolf Gooderham

The Ekofisk Bravo blow-out last April still has a sobering influence on Norway's offshore oil debates, in which operational safety is now a dominant issue. Difficulties encountered in the oil recovery programme have led many Norwegians to believe that their North Sea riches are a mixed blessing. Opinion polls show that a bare majority of the population now favours today's already modest development tempo on the continental shelf.

Supporters of continued oil activity have been quick to point out that the April blow-out—the North Sea's first uncontrolled oil spillage—apparently caused little pollution damage. But Norway's environment-conscious public was shocked both by the disaster itself and the serious gaps in organization and equipment exposed during the capping and clean-up operations.

An official inquiry report, due for parliamentary debate soon, places the blame squarely on Ekofisk operator Phillips Petroleum (which has done nothing for the already poor image of the foreign oil companies) and the supervisory petroleum directorate. Matters have not been helped by another potentially serious mishap on Ekofisk last autumn, which prompted tough new drilling regulations. Companies can expect more of these costly directives.

The Bravo affair produced a hiatus in official offshore development plans. A controversial proposal to begin drilling off Norway's fish-rich northern coasts next year has been abandoned, to the satisfaction of environmentalists and fishermen who claim that these waters are too deep and dangerous for present techniques.

This step was bad news to Norway's hard-pressed offshore supplies industry, which has been looking for new orders from oil to replace other markets hit by recession and rising costs. About 34 per cent of the domestic market today is for offshore oil. Industry would like to see this share increased and wants the development tempo increased to stimulate business.

The Government is due to re-present proposals for allocating 16 blocks, dropped after the Bravo disaster. Apart from boosting industry, this concession is meant to ensure a steady flow of hydrocarbons through the 1980s. The Government is likely to keep the pace cautious, though.

Of the parliamentary parties, only the Conservatives support the idea of more concessions now. But they and the Government disagrees violently over the latter's proposal to award one of the most promising North Sea blocks exclusively to the state oil company Statoil.

Always regarded as something of a monster by the non-Socialist opposition, Statoil has had its leading role in Norwegian oil activities confirmed by Labour's narrow win in the September election. For instance, foreign companies can expect a stake in new blocks only if they contribute to the state firm's own development.

Earlier fears that offshore activity would put too great a strain on the economic and social fabric of this small nation have receded for the moment. Oil-related employment, for example, has come nowhere near the levels once predicted—reaching at its peak a mere 22,000—while oil revenues, far from being a threat, have proved a godsend to government policy of spending Norway out of her current recession.

So far 13,000m kroner (£1,300m) in potential oil revenues has been taken in advance, via foreign loans, to finance such counter-cyclical policies. However, since total government revenue from oil by 1985 is put at a massive 150,000m kroner, the nation remains credit-worthy with international lenders.

But no real decisions have yet been made on how to use the oil surpluses when they eventually begin to materialize. Another problem still being ducked is how best to aid manufacturing industry, where wage costs are now the world's highest, thanks to oil money subsidies.

Field development has had its problems, too. Accidents like that on Ekofisk, delays in commissioning, and cost escalation have boosted Norway's foreign debt, postponed the points at which a balance of payments surplus and peak production will be achieved, and cut 1977 output from an estimated 27 million tons of oil equivalent to only 17 million tons.

The worst problems today are on Statfjord, where all control over development costs appears to have been lost. This giant field is expected to absorb 35,000m kroner before delayed production begins in 1980—but nobody believes this to be the final estimate.

But the Norwegians have plenty to be cheerful about, too. Four fields—Ekofisk, Frigg, Statfjord and the Valhall-Hod complex — are either in production or under development. By the early 1980s, their annual output should be altogether about 67 million tons of oil equivalents—roughly seven times Norway's present domestic needs.

Again, the petrochemical complex at Bamble in south-eastern Norway has begun production, and industry can look forward to extensive repairs and maintenance assignments in the future. Marine oil recovery systems form another promising market in the wake of Bravo.

Total proved recoverable reserves from Norway's shelf are set at 680 million tons of oil, about 710,000 million cu metres of natural gas and 20 million tons of petrol and liquids—altogether 1,400 million tons of oil equivalents (oil company estimates are about 300 million tons higher). A further 2,000 million tons or so are expected to be found in structures not yet drilled south of the 62nd Parallel.

Maximum production could be achieved in 1986-87 at a level of about 75 million tons of oil equivalents. This compares with the present ceiling on Norwegian oil production of 90 million tons set by Parliament in 1974.

In some respects, the slower rate of development and lower peak are welcomed because oil supplies could last longer this way. This attitude hardly suits the other West European countries, who have hinted that a higher output would be welcome. But Norway's prickly nationalism demands full control over resources and takes unkindly to suggestions of outside interference.

Norway's own consumption is about eight million to nine million tons of oil equivalents. One suggested use of the hefty hydro-carbon surplus this leaves is the production of electricity for domestic consumption, and plans are already afoot for the country's first oil-fired power station to meet an energy gap expected after 1979-80.

Plentiful supplies of hydro-electric power have given Norway the world's highest per capita electricity consumption. But the limits to this "white coal" are now in sight, thanks not least to inefficient power use as a result of its low price. Remaining hydroelectric resources will become increasingly costly to develop at a time when conservationists are making strong objections to the loss of more of Norway's scenic rivers.

This problem can be tackled in two ways: a cutback in extravagant energy consumption or the building of power stations fuelled by oil, gas or nuclear energy.

The nuclear alternative is highly unpopular in a country raised on horror tales of the bomb and a genuine concern for the natural environment. Equally, economists reject as highly inefficient the use of oil and gas to produce power.

Some attention is being paid to unconventional power sources. Solar energy is thought to have little potential in a land so far to the north, but Norwegian scientists have produced plans for a wave-powered generator.

Unless these government moves to save power have a really significant effect, or some kind of decision can be reached on thermal power production, Norway may soon be faced with the paradox of floating in a sea of oil with rationed electricity.

The author is UK Correspondent of the Norwegian oil journal Northern Offshore.

Exports pay for high living standards

by Derry Hogue

The price of remaining a small yet rich country means having one of the world's highest costs of production. There would be little point competing for exports with countries of low wage rates or against giant nations which can offer economies of scale.

So to maintain a cheerful circle of growing exports paying for such a high standard of living, the Norwegians are looking at least 10 years ahead.

They can afford the time. It is next year that oil and gas exports will begin bringing in such large export revenue (£2,000m) that there will be an overall increase of 6.8 per cent in Norway's g.n.p.

It is also going to be the year when the price of aluminium—the country's biggest single export commodity outside its offshore oil and gas—also rises dramatically.

However, such export health in these areas is causing concern to the ever cautious Norwegians about pricing themselves out of their traditional export markets. Some of these old-established industries, notably shipping and paper and pulp are decidedly ailing.

Therefore it is to the specialized technology gained from the offshore development where Norway is looking for new markets. This new technological development is likely, for example, to spill over into a regeneration of the shipping industry.

Certainly, the Norwegians do not assume that oil and gas will last for ever, but they are more optimistic than perhaps President Carter, about the possibility of new and extensive finds in deep water.

For this reason, the Norwegian Export Council has set up an office in Singapore to watch closely offshore developments there, in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. The council has also set up offices this year in Jiddah and Baghdad and has plans for an office soon in Dubai to look for export openings in the Middle East.

But Europe, particularly Britain, is likely to be the most lucrative export market in the immediate future because of the North Sea development and the potential of the Irish Sea. Norway is hoping to offer newly expanded skills in deep sea drilling, platform building, specialized oil and gas rig service equipment and new delivery techniques.

Norway's three biggest export markets are Britain (29.5 per cent) Sweden (14.2 per cent) and West Germany (9.6 per cent) while the whole of western Europe takes 83 per cent, leaving a stable 3 per cent of goods taken by East Europe and 7.6 per cent to the United States, with the remaining 6 per cent spread over the rest of the world.

Before the oil and gas finds there was already a superabundance of energy which had come from the huge hydroelectric power stations built since the beginning of the century in the mountains and fjords. It has been generating the world's highest per capita consumption of electricity into a variety of metal based industries, providing a solid export base before the new oil bonus.

The message clearly stated by business and industrial leaders is the need to offer such highly specialized products for export that Norway's high labour costs will become largely irrelevant.

Mr Gunnar Rogstad, the managing director of the Norwegian Export Council, agrees that Norway has already reached its competitive cost level in traditional industries and these areas outside oil, gas and aluminium are standing still for the first time in 30 years.

As with nearly all national questions the differences between interest groups and political parties seem more to be on the means and methods rather than the aim.

In exports this difference is seen in how fast new skills should be acquired to develop new growth.

The Government, with a policy of maintaining full employment, is heavily subsidizing traditional industries with £2,500m this year being spent on subsidies to the shipping industry alone.

This is particularly sensitive to an economy where exports, before oil and gas arrived, had built up to represent 50 per cent of its wealth and where the metals industries (last year worth £875m in exports) had taken 40 per cent of energy.

The aluminium industry has benefited particularly from the cheap energy. It is also going to benefit further from the world's present oil shortage as this becomes reflected in greater demand for aluminium components to make lighter, and therefor less petrol consuming, cars. And Norway is the traditional supplier of aluminium to the neighbouring Swedish car industry.

Norway is also the biggest supplier of primary aluminium to Europe. But while there is little prospect of this position changing, the industry is going to have to level out its production (in tonnages, if not price) because of some recent domestic developments.

The most important has been the limit of water power. This was emphasized by an unusually dry summer this year which caused Norway to import electricity from Swedish nuclear stations, something unimaginable even 18 months ago.

Although an equally unusual mild and wet autumn has replenished the dams, the Government is now having to look to future alternative energy sources.

So strong is the environmental view in politics that few, if any more hydro stations will be built. The aluminium industry is as a result investing heavily in ways of reducing the amount of energy it uses and yet hopes to increase production to maintain its export position.

The industry, which employs 30,000 people and accounts for 8 per cent of the workforce, will easily manage this because the 23 per cent world price rise last year not only reflected a recovery from a bad year in 1975 but points to the problems of countries outside Norway in meeting higher energy costs.

It is also a good example of the Norwegian metals industry in general diversifying more into technology and out of basic resources.

The biggest aluminium company, the Ardal og Sunndal Verk, ASV, which employs 7,300 people, now has half its workforce engaged in manufacture, and this trend into finished products will continue.

The budget estimates last spring had predicted a 13 per cent growth in traditional export earnings from a 6 per cent growth in volume and an average price increase of 7 per cent.

Shepherds and their dogs follow the flock down the mountains. Most city-dwellers have a feeling for the countryside and have access to a hut in the hills or beside a lake as a rural retreat.

Nationalism aids agreement between management and unions

by Derry Hogue

It only took the recent events at Grunwick to remind Norwegians of the startling gulf between themselves and the British when it comes to industrial relations.

To the Norwegian mind, British labour-management negotiations must appear a murky tribal conflict, with a social unease that just does not occur in their own dealings.

The vast oil and gas wealth has not only buffered Norwegians against unemployment but has taken their average wage to 35 kroner an hour over a 40-hour week—£140 a week—and enables the lowest paid workers to take home between £80 and £100 a week.

But even if the oil and gas had not been found, it seems unthinkable that any likely unemployment would have created the divisions seen on a British scale. On that, both management and labour representatives in Norway agree.

There is just too much of a tradition of compromise. Although there has always been a great deal of disagreement in principle, there has also been a strong underlying sense of nationalism which has helped to keep relations calmer than in many countries.

For example, both union and business leaders are broadly agreed that in their next round of negotiations, scheduled for March, there should be no increase in the real income of most workers. The disagreement will arise in the details of how much the lowest paid employees' incomes should rise and how much, if at all, the real incomes of the highest paid workers should fall to compensate in the national economy.

The talks must be seen against a history of far greater social egalitarianism than in Britain, with national identity heightened, first in the movement towards full independence from Sweden in 1905, and again increased among Norway's small population during the German invasion of the Second World War.

The Norwegian Federation of Labour Unions (the equivalent of the TUC) will be pressing for a minimum wage of about 30 kroner an hour (£120 a week) further to narrow the spread of wages. Overall they will argue that to maintain real income for the rest of the workforce will mean an 8 per cent increase in pay packets to match inflation and other economic movements.

The Employers' Confederation will be saying that any increase among the lower paid sector will then cause demands among the better paid workers for higher wages to maintain their margins.

But it seems that any resultant wage drift will ease next year because of the recognition among the unions of the difficulty faced in some already heavily subsidized traditional industries.

Also, while the British employee has seen real income decline in the past four years, his Norwegian counterparts have enjoyed a 20 per cent real growth. Unemployment is negligible (0.7 per cent).

Mr Tor Halvorsen, the chairman of the Labour Federation, in an interview with *The Times* earlier this month said: "It may sound strange coming from a trade unionist, but our aim is to stabilize wages. We must maintain these wages but we also need strong industries and balanced development and must use (economic) surplus to develop varied and strengthened industries to maintain full employment in the future.

"The new principle to emerge from our congress in May was that although full employment remained the number one priority our living standards must be increased more through the quality of life—longer holidays, shorter working hours and preserving the natural environment."

At present there are four weeks' annual holidays, five weeks for people aged more than 60 years. The only disagreement from the employers' point of view is about the speed of achieving these changes. And there would appear to be little to ruffle the stability of relations in the next decade at least.

This stems from the sort of permanent social contract operating in Norwegian industrial relations where a basic agreement is negotiated each four years to establish the rights of unions and employers in principle. Each two years there is a contract drawn up to cover wages and conditions. Should a strike occur that comes outside the terms of these agreements it is dealt with by a Labour Court (set up in 1915). The question of shorter working hours will not be resolved under the system until 1980.

From the trade unionists' view it is not just a sense of solidarity through their own centralized version of the TUC which has accounted for their success in gaining high wages and a big say in decision making. It is more the advanced level of education among trade union members. At present there are 25,000 trade unionists studying specific industrial relations courses, equivalent to a million members in Britain doing the same.

Also, 70 per cent of the Norwegian workforce belongs to a trade union. Industrial and business leaders agree that the high degree of economic and industrial knowledge among employees has contributed much to day-to-day peace.

This particularly applies to industrial democracy, a common feature of the Scandinavian countries, where employers point to a sense of company involvement found among the employees.

The 75 per cent state-owned ASV aluminium company, for example, has not known a strike in 30 years. Under the present system, this company, 25 per cent owned by the Canadian company Alcan, must, like all Norwegian companies, have a third of its board elected by employees and be trade unionists. So the ASV board comprises two members appointed by Alcan, six appointed by the state and four elected by the employees.

In addition within its various factories there are departmental committees whose elected representatives maintain a continuous discussion with management on daily work problems.

Society resists lure of fleshpots

The four branch lines of the Oslo Underground all end in forest outside the city. Throughout summer the trains are crowded with families headed for berry-picking beyond the city limits. In winter the same families are found travelling out to ski. The only noticeable difference from 10 years ago, when a sudden new affluence became apparent in Norway, is perhaps the expense of dress and the quality of the skis.

Norwegians themselves say they have consumed at a great pace in keeping with the new-found wealth from offshore oil and gas discoveries. They point to refurbished and renovated housing, the buying of newer and more expensive cars, more expansive foreign holidays and a greater consumption of beef in a previously mainly fish diet.

However, to an outsider it would appear that Norway has altered very little, unlike so many societies that find themselves suddenly much richer.

A walk around Oslo will not entice a jaded European or North American looking for night life; there are no seamy quarters. Instead, the city retains the charm of low-scale buildings, neatly maintained streets and parks and a feeling of clean and easy moving order that extends to well-scrubbed trams.

This feeling has remained, despite an upsurge in consumerism because the main love of Norwegians has itself not changed, that of taking themselves into the fiord and mountain country, well away from the main cities.

Literally, the whole population has access to a hut in the hills or by a lake. This long-held preference for rural sentiment has in no way given over to a desire for a show of urban worldliness. The only intrusion has been a growing self-awareness of the country's greater international recognition because of its increasing aid to Third World countries and the interest aroused by the offshore discoveries.

The outward sign of this has been the loss of an inferiority complex about the dominant role of Sweden in Scandinavia. Otherwise the Norwegians appear publicly a little prudish when put alongside the Danes and Swedes, although the Norwegians would counter that they also appear less affected in manner.

But perhaps the strongest enduring feature has been the importance of family life. Earlier this year a Cabinet minister failed to attend an important banquet for a visiting politician because of a previously-arranged family gathering.

The Lutheran Church is the established state religion and it continues to permeate a lot of Norwegian thinking, especially the attitude towards drinking. There is little public social drinking compared with in Britain and in some of the western areas of the country there is no drinking at all.

This helps to explain the politically acceptable high taxes on alcohol which mean for example that a gin and tonic in Oslo costs about £2.30 and that a half litre glass of lager costs £1.30.

The side effect, it was explained, is that at informal private gatherings there is never a drop of alcohol left at the end when drinkers are present. The high price of both fermented and spirituous liquor has led to a growing (and illegal) interest in potent home brews, often raw alcohol broken down with flavouring essences and water.

As in most Western societies there has been a falling in church attendances. However, nearly 80 per cent of marriages still take place within the church and it is still considered unusual, though no longer rare, if a baby is not baptized.

The crime rate remains one of the lowest in the world but it has seen a steady rise in the past seven years, especially in tax evasion.

At the beginning of this month a national television programme showed up some stereotyped racism among schoolchildren towards the 30,000 Pakistanis living in Norway. The programme forced Norwegians to recognize that their excellent reputation abroad for a liberal conscience was not entirely matched at home in race relations.

There has been no violence but, as one sociologist added, there is no unemployment. The official immigration policy has been tightened in recent years so that only families of immigrants already settled in Norway from outside the Nordic region can continue to arrive. All other people must apply for a work permit before being eligible for a resident's permit. Yet to be given a work permit requires having a resident's permit. This does not apply to Scandinavians who are part of a free labour market.

Of the many benefits of the former immigration though, an expansion in eating tastes has been the most noticeable. Norwegians now concede that for too long their diet was not unfairly characterized as boiled potatoes and fish. The greater affluence has seen Norwegians choosing a much greater variety of food but they still prefer to cook it at home rather than encourage a restaurant society. And being a small market they have so far mostly escaped the attention of the international fast food chains.

D.H.

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone : 01-837 1234

THE PAY OF THE FORCES

The unquestioning loyalty of the armed forces to the Government of the day and the policies which it pursues is something which Britain has long been able to take for granted. There is still no evidence to suggest that one might seriously doubt it. Discontent over pay and conditions is now, however, so comprehensive and so obsessive that the Government will have to consider during the next six months how far it can go towards relieving it. Otherwise the mutual trust and confidence which we have come to expect might be deeply eroded.

Until 1970 the serviceman was a kept servant. He lived free off the state but earned a relatively low income in addition. Under the military salary scheme, however, he is now paid at rates comparable with those of equivalent civilian trades, in return for which he has to pay back the state for his food and accommodation. What he should earn and how much he should pay back, is assessed annually by the Armed Forces Pay Review Body whose recommendations have been accepted almost automatically by successive governments for the last seven years.

Until 1975 the forces were largely satisfied with their lot. Discontent has grown only during the last two years of Government pay restraint, and particularly since last April when a Phase-2 increase was almost obliterated, and in some cases more than obliterated, by a rise in food and accommodation charges.

Their experience has not been unique. Civilian pay awards during the same period have been outmatched by inflation and every sector of society has felt itself to be personally victimized. The services' case however is that they have been outdistanced by "wage drift" which has allowed civilians to supplement their incomes by working overtime or enjoying the perquisites of an expense account.

In consequence an average private soldier grossing £51.55 a week feels rather worse off than the striking firemen whose job he is struggling to perform. Comparability is always difficult. Servicemen still receive free uniforms, or uniform allowances in the case of officers (though officers complain that these are usually inadequate), generous leave, in some cases travel allowances and, where applicable, boarding school allowances for their children—although these by no means cover the whole costs and are subject to tax when the soldier is stationed in Britain. Similarly the rent for a married quarter is not unfair, but is not particularly attractive and is often more than the soldier would have to pay on an average mortgage if he bought his own property. Many soldiers do indeed now buy their own homes and leave their wives behind in them—a trend which is causing some concern.

The forces themselves have assessed the loss of comparability at between 20 per cent and 25 per cent, and the Review Body itself has acknowledged that there has been a loss, without stating the extent of it. While direct comparisons are difficult, the services are certainly not among the better paid sectors of society now.

Dissatisfaction is partly psychological. Without a union or association to represent them, servicemen feel frustrated and forgotten. It would be a pity if they now felt encouraged to start such a professional body, despite Mr Mulley's blessing. In the long term it would probably be counter-productive. It must be said that there seems to be no great enthusiasm for one anyway.

But their very lack of representation makes it important that the Government should listen to their case, and should be seen to be doing so. The forces themselves largely recognise the general need to abide by the 10 per cent guidelines when their next award is due in the spring. But they could be helped indirectly by, say, a decision not to raise food and accommodation charges again—and even perhaps to reduce them. There is considerable sympathy for the services now and such a decision would not be unpopular. Recruiting is buoyant but it will not always be so. If the Government loses the confidence of the services now, it might find it difficult to win it back again.

THE LATEST EXAMPLE OF THE BRITISH DISEASE

Yesterday's decision by Swan Hunter's 1,700 ships' outfitters to continue their overtime ban is, to the casual observer, as inexplicable as it was unexpected. The possibility that this famous and much-respected name in shipbuilding might lose its share of the Polish order recently negotiated has become, in a matter of hours, a virtual certainty.

For many years now, outfitters have sought pay parity with those elitists of the shipbuilding industry, the boilermakers. The current campaign, like many before it, is aimed at this target. The men's claim may, or may not, be justified: but both their local leaders, and their national officials, are clearly convinced that bigger things are at stake, and have urged them to resume normal working. The advice was sound. The outfitters' decision to ignore it was immediately followed by a statement from British Shipbuilders that the task of re-allocating the order would begin almost at once, and by a repetition of Swan Hunter's advice that if the work was irrevocably lost to the group, then redundancy notices would have to go out to over 700 men.

Measures of this kind are serious enough. What is potentially catastrophic is the impact that this latest manifestation of the so-called "British disease" will have on overseas opinion. The world's shipbuilders are facing as acute a crisis as are their counterparts in international steel: in every major industrialized country, there are too many yards facing too few orders, with little immediate prospect of the situation improving. With the active, enthusiastic, and well-publicized assistance of Mr Callaghan, British yards succeeded in winning the £115m Polish order for 22 ships and two crane barges in the face of strong opposition from their competitors in Japan and other countries. The methods used to secure the contract were, and will probably continue to be, strongly criticized on a number of counts.

It has been said, for example, that too much public money was taken up—£28m of the original £65m in the shipbuilding intervention fund—to keep the price of construction low enough to appeal to the Poles. Some have argued that the provision of 100 per cent credit was over generous to the point of foolishness; that the Poles may eventually use the ships to compete with those of Western lines; that Britain is freeing Polish shipbuilding capacity that will be used to the benefit of Eastern block and developing countries; that failure to publish details of the fine print in the contract have aroused justifiable suspicions; and so on.

Many people will sympathize with some, if not all, of these criticisms. But it is fair to say that the amount of money that will have to be spent to complete the order for Poland will prove to have been wisely invested if it wins British shipbuilders enough time to put their yards in order, and thus to restore the industry to health and vigour. This can only happen if all those actively involved in shipbuilding —and indeed, those in the allied trades which serve it—work together. The outfitters at Swan Hunter may feel that they will not be among the 700 men made redundant, since there is abundant work for them. But they should ask themselves how much longer such work will be forthcoming from the world's shipowners in the face of such blatant self-interest and stupidity.

AMNESTY IN YUGOSLAVIA

International opinion probably played some role in Yugoslavia's welcome decision to amnesty a substantial number of political prisoners. Belgrade is now under closer scrutiny than usual as host to the 35-nation conference reviewing the Helsinki agreement of 1975, in which human rights have a significant place. Nevertheless, the main reasons for the amnesty are likely to be internal. Yugoslavia is not as responsive to outside pressure as its neighbours to the east. Its interests are different. Whereas the Soviet Union and eastern Europe need the support of western public opinion for détente and must therefore take some account of its susceptibilities, Yugoslavia's main interest is to establish and demonstrate its independence from East and West. It tends to feel that if it makes a concession to western pressure it will have to balance this with a concession to Soviet pressure. Therefore the best course is not to respond—or not to be seen to respond—to pressure from either side. Some types of western pressure, therefore, risk being counterproductive.

There are, however, pressures inside the country which are more difficult to ignore, but which are also more difficult to accommodate. Mr Kardelj, the second man in the hierarchy, admits very frankly in his writings that the development of the political system is lagging behind the social and economic progress of the country. It is a one-party system in which a great deal of power has devolved upon the organs of self-management and the existence of conflicting interests is fully acknowledged. The result is unique and confusing. Seen from eastern Europe Yugoslavia looks free almost to the point of anarchy. The pursuit of wealth is relatively unrestrained; western newspapers are only very occasionally seized; foreign travel is almost unrestricted (there are still a few regrettable exceptions); discussion is freer than in eastern Europe. Seen from the West the constraints on free speech and political activity can still look burdensome and sometimes unjust.

Within the country much the same balance is drawn. However, even critics of the system mostly doubt whether a multi-party system would work in a country so divided among different nationalities, some of which can still be moved by romantic feelings reminiscent of the nineteenth century. Political parties would quickly come to represent the interests of competing republics rather than alternative national policies or nation-wide interest groups. The problem, therefore, is how to continue the journey away from the dictatorship of a single party, which long ago proved too restrictive, without losing the benefits as well as the disadvantages of a central authority.

Mr Kardelj, who admits a considerable discrepancy between proclaimed democratic principles on the one hand and practice on the other, has been propagating the concept of "self-management pluralism . . . or the pluralism of interests of self-managed communities integrated in the system of delegates". The idea is to contain pluralism within the more flexible and representative democratic structure which the new constitution is supposed to provide, but it faces at least two major problems. In the first place the role of the party becomes less and less clear in such a system. Already it cannot issue directives of an east European type, and Mr Kardelj now says it represents only one specific complex of ideological and political interests in a plural system. It is not a political force above these interests. At the same time it is supposed to become the leading ideological and political force of the majority.

Thus party men can be forgiven for being confused about their role and their power, and many will wish to see it more clearly asserted. This is the other problem facing Mr Kardelj—his ideas are not universally welcomed. The next stage in Yugoslavia's development therefore remains uncertain. The country could move into an experimental stage of greater democratization or it could draw back towards attempts to reassert central political control. The amnesty suggests that the more democratic tendencies are for the moment in the ascendant.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Discontent in the services over pay

From Mr Philip Goodhart, MP for Bromley and Beckenham (Conservative)

Sir, Lord Chalfont (November 28) is certainly right when he says that servicemen are vociferous in their complaints about supplies and equipment. In the past three years the Government has firmly maintained that the bulk of successive defence cuts do not fall on weapons of the Forces, but it is not always easy to differentiate between the teeth and the tail.

For example, is a tank transporter a tooth or a bit of a tail? It is not a fighting vehicle, but without adequate tank transporters our tanks cannot be deployed to the area in which they are supposed to fight. On a recent visit to BAOR, I and my colleagues were told that many of our tank transporters were older than the servicemen who drive them, and that some of these vehicles had already travelled 250,000 miles. If there are no more cuts, these transporters are due to be replaced in the early 1980s.

Unlike Lord Chalfont, however, I have found that most of my discussions with servicemen of all ranks in the past six months concentrated almost exclusively on questions of pay and pay allowances and charges. Apart from the fact that the purchasing power of the take home pay of many servicemen has declined by 25 per cent in the past two years, the form of the last report of the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay has provoked a storm of criticism. This disastrous document made it look as though those in authority had not spoken out vigorously on behalf of the men and women they are responsible for. As your article by a "serving officer" (November 24) pointed out:

"Most servicemen will be unaware of the struggles which have taken place so discreetly between their senior officers and government servants on the question of pay and allowances. Many servicemen believe, unfairly, that they have been let down. . . ."

This feeling is indeed widespread and since April senior officers have become much more outspoken in their criticism of the decline in standards imposed by the Government. This must be right, otherwise many servicemen would lose faith in their senior officers as well as their political masters. Apart from insisting that the Armed Forces should be treated as a special case, the next report of the Review Body on Armed Forces Pay must make it plain that senior commanders and their staffs have complained vigorously and effectively.

Meanwhile, I note that more than half of the riflemen in the Green Jacket Battalion, which is now providing fire protection for my constituency, are eligible for rent rebate. The take home pay of some of these riflemen is £12 a week less than that of a London fireman with the equivalent length of service.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons.
November 29.

From Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Mayfield (retd)

Sir, Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan Llewellyn, in his recent remarks about Forces' pay, made on a local radio station and much publicized, said much the same as many other people have been saying, and writing, for some time. The difference is that when it is said by a serving officer, a Commanding Officer, the impact is greater. The last Commanding Officer I know of to have expressed publicly his views on "policy" (in your columns) earned disapproval from some quarters at the time but, as far as I know, no harm of any sort was done and he still pursues a deservedly distinguished career in the Army—very rightly so.

The shamefully low rates of pay in the Armed Forces, as little as £20 a week "take home pay" for a married man, obvious enough before the firemen's strike to those directly concerned, have become even more starkly apparent to us all as a result of the strike and the consequent involvement of the Services. While I do not doubt that those senior officers, whose responsibility it is to see that those under their command are properly looked after, have done and are doing their best for their subordinates, they must surely be appalled when they reflect upon just how far pay in the Services has been allowed to fall behind comparable civilian wages and salaries. Indeed, since most civilians can increase their wages considerably by working overtime, whereas a serviceman is paid no extra regardless of how many hours he works, the situation seems to be almost beyond comparison.

Like many other soldiers, serving and retired, I find it difficult to attach much credence to the feasibility of involving the Services with the trades unions, as has apparently been mooted by the Minister of Defence and others. But if the TUC can ensure that the Services are properly paid, where others have blatantly failed, perhaps there is something, to be said for the idea after all.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MAYFIELD,
Ewhurst,
Ramsdell,
Basingstoke,
Hampshire.
November 27.

Modernization of the Lord's Prayer

From Dr A. F. Foster-Carter

Sir, In his article against the modernization of the Lord's Prayer (November 26), Mr Higham speaks for a very large number of Anglicans who are weary of the endless succession of changes in their familiar forms of worship. The liturgical experts are clearly out of touch with the person in the pew and the reasons they give for their alterations are unconvincing. The line must be drawn somewhere and as Mr Higham rightly points out, the Lord's Prayer is the only one that most people still know; why alter the familiar wording?

If we are honest we have to admit that no one can be absolutely sure of the original meaning of a number of passages in the Gospels —including some of the sayings and actions attributed to Jesus himself. The clause in the Lord's Prayer— "Lead us not into temptation"—is a good example: In "Series 3", the experts give their imprimatur to the words—"Do not bring us to the test"—but this is only one of at least four possible alternative meanings given by Dr William Barclay in his book *The Plain Man Looks at the Lord's Prayer*, and he wisely concludes: "It may well be that in all our efforts at explanation we are allowing theological logic to take precedence over the natural human reaction of the heart".

The plain man has always had to interpret these words for himself, in the light of his own understanding of the Gospel, and it does not matter if his reading of them is not exactly the same as that of his neighbour. The really important fact— which constantly escapes the experts —is that our hearts react to these particular words because they have been used by our forebears and by generation after generation of Christian people in their search for God, and thus the words have become an irreplaceable link between us and that great cloud of witnesses. If we break this link, we will impoverish not only ourselves but our successors.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. FOSTER-CARTER,
Myrtle Cottage,
Vernham Dean,
Andover,
Hampshire.
November 28.

From Mrs Elizabeth Williams

Sir, Clearly Martin Higham does not often pray with small children. I am, of course, anxious that the Lord's Prayer should become as used and as readily used by my five-year-old son and my three-year-old daughter as it is to so many people. But each time we do try to say it together at bedtime, I am struck by how extraordinary it must seem to them (even in comparison to the much more easily understood prayers of St Richard or St Francis, for example).

The problem merely begins with "which art", "hallowed" and "trespasses"—all words or phrases not in general use and clearly a stumbling block to really feeling at home with the prayer. The children cling to the one understandable section: "Give us this day our daily bread"—a small and possibly least important part of the prayer for us in the affluent West.

It is thus, certainly at this stage in their lives, of dubious spiritual value to them, and may not it continue to remain so if learnt parrot fashion, as is regretfully my own experience to some extent, having learnt it with very little initial understanding about 30 years ago?

I am not denying the great difficulty in changing this universally known and central prayer. I do sympathize greatly with hostile feelings brought about by liturgical changes. I do not myself want a change in the Lord's Prayer, but I do want it for my children, for their better understanding and earlier awakening to the strength of prayers.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH WILLIAMS,
The Corner House,
Leasebourne,
Chipping Campden,
Gloucestershire.
November 26.

From the Rev C. G. Wilson

Sir, Martin Higham seemed a little out of humour in his diatribe against the modernization of the Lord's Prayer and, it would seem, of any form of worship

It is impossible to judge new forms of worship until they have been used properly—that is prayed, not experimented with. That is why nobody can judge the merits of any revision of wording so long as either they can continue to choose between seventeenth and twentieth century language or keep jumping from one to the other.

The modern form of the Lord's Prayer is simple and true. Once one uses it in order to pray and not merely to savour the language one finds, not surprisingly, that it remains exactly what it always has been, the Lord's Prayer. Furthermore, once one has become used to praying in one's own ordinary language it seems absolutely natural, and one then wishes that there could be a final break with the too long redundant practice of interposing seventeenth century language, however beautiful, between people and their prayers.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. WILSON,
St John's Vicarage,
14 Dane Bank Avenue,
Crewe,
November 28.

From Mrs B. M. Willmott Dobbie

Sir, Some good news for Martin Higham: at Bath Abbey over the up-to-date version of "Series Three" some kindly hand has pasted the familiar Lord's Prayer.

Yours, faithfully,
B. M. WILLMOTT DOBBIE,
Gattrell,
Steway Lane,
Batheaston,
Bath.
November 27.

Criminal legal aid

From Mr Hugh Montgomery Campbell

Sir, I should like to reply to the letters from the Chairman of the Bar Council and the Chairman of the legal committee of the Justices' Clerks' Society (November 22 and 23).

I agree with Mr McNeill that the control of criminal legal aid raises problems meriting public discussion and that the problems are difficult to solve because justice and personal liberty are involved, but I do not agree that there are only "considerations of mere financial expediency" to be weighed on the other side of the scales. Public confidence is a very important factor and I suggest that whereas on the whole the public's confidence is given to the civil legal aid scheme, it is noticeably absent from the system administered by the criminal courts.

As regards Mr Harris's letter it is correct that the Widgery committee carefully considered the proposal that The Law Society should administer criminal legal aid and rejected it. The views of the committee on this aspect are on page 20 of the report under the heading "Existing system not unsatisfactory". Judging by his comments to the Royal Commission, I assume that the Lord Chief Justice has now changed his mind. Ten years have passed during which crime has unhappily been one of the biggest growth industries in the country.

There are three main features of the civil scheme:

(a) Control on the grant of a legal aid certificate;

(b) Control during the currency of the case and

(c) Advice (published annually) to the Lord Chancellor on the running of the scheme both from The Law Society and from the independent advisory committee. This advice has led to many improvements.

In the criminal system (a) is present in an unsatisfactory form (b) is minimal and (c) is nonexistent. I agree with Mr Harris that there are problems of time arising from the suggestion that the grant of legal aid should be in the hands of lawyers rather than of the court. It is not the original grant of the order which causes the defects in the present system but the extent of the legal work permitted under the order.

The civil scheme makes considerable use of the limited certificate which restricts the amount of work done under the certificate pending further reference to the area committee. This should be adopted in the criminal system so that when a case is committed to the Crown Court the question whether legal aid should be continued and if so, under what conditions, would then be examined by a committee of lawyers independent of the court.

HUGH MONTGOMERY CAMPBELL,
Chairman, Legal Aid Committee.
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane, WC2.

Safeguarding the otter

From Mrs D Raikes

Sir, Mr Franklin's letter of November 26 puts the case clearly for adding the otter to the endangered species list. The Welsh Water Authority, having discussed the survival of the otter in many advisory committees throughout Wales, has decided to ban the killing and hunting of otters on water and land associated with water in its ownership This relates mainly, but not entirely, to reservoirs and some lakes, but in addition the Water Authority proposes to invite riparian owners in its area to follow suit if they so wish.

This policy necessitates the banning not only of shooting and trapping, but also of hunting, since even when no killing is intended, unintentional killing may occur, and in any case the inevitable disturbance may result in a decline in breeding. We have evidence of an increase in otter hunting in Wales over the last year and of two kills in 1976 and one probable kill in 1977. The response to this move by the Water Authority has been most encouraging

It is recognized that other factors, notably pollution, are perhaps a greater menace to the otter, but like other Water Authorities, the W.W.A. is devoting very considerable resources to improving water quality Every effort is being made to conserve wildlife in carrying out statutory duties of land drainage and of meeting the increasing demands of recreation and amenity. The W.W.A. is assisting a Nature Conservancy Council survey of the otter population in Wales with a grant and by obtaining information from bailiffs and fishermen.

The Department of the Environment proposal needs the support of both public and private owners and of all who are concerned with the survival of the otter in this country.

Yours, etc.
DOROTHEA RAIKES,
Chairman, Regional Fishing, Recreation and Amenity Advisory Committee of the Welsh Water Authority.
Cambrian Way,
Brecon.
Powys.
November 28.

From Mr Ronald Davies

Sir, What is to prevent frustrated hunters of the native British otter from pursuing the foreign pests— coypu and mink?

Yours &c.
RONALD DAVIES,
38 Penn Grove Road.
Hereford,
November 28.

Newsreel objectivity

From Mr Donald Barrington-Hudson

Sir, I read with interest the review by your correspondent of *Before Hindsight* (November 18) with its portrayal of old film newsreel clips which give the impression that editorial policy was biased. I was the first journalist (*Morning Post*) to be appointed on the staff of a newsreel. As News Editor, commentator, and script writer, in the 1930s of the largest circulating newsreel in the world I would like to place on record that never at any time did I receive policy direction and was allowed to write my own commentary.

When I made on one occasion a sarcastic remark concerning Mussolini who after sacking two ministers had taken over their portfolios, the Italian Embassy complained but the circulation of Pathe Gazette or my commentaries were not curtailed.

In those pre-television days when the mass of people were only able to witness world events in action by film camera coverage of world events in a visit to a cinema, we were only able to present editions of 15 minutes in length.

We had to work under certain technical difficulties and restricted time.

The newsreels should have been half as long again, as I submit *Before Hindsight* should have been.

It is my belief that one great service the free British newsreels performed was to make millions of people think about national and international affairs when hitherto, even with the advent of the popular press, too many people were parochial in their outlook.

No newsreel, television or radio commentator could deal in depth with the news but he could often give the first news of an important event projecting the actuality of the situation recorded by first class cameramen and like his radio counterpart spotlight main events with the main points. The executives of the film newsreels owed a great deal to the cooperation of journalists in many parts of the world.

I am, yours faithfully,
D. BARRINGTON-HUDSON,
Forest Court,
Englefield Green,
Surrey.

Human rights in Argentina

From the Argentine Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

Sir, The front page of your edition of November 23 carries the impressive headline "Vance list of 7,500 missing Argentines" and announces that the American Secretary of State "is reported to have given the Argentine Government a list of 7,500 people said to have disappeared in Argentina or been arrested without legal process for political reasons". Furthermore, the allegations seem to be confirmed inside by a report from your correspondent in Buenos Aires under the heading "Argentina given list of thousands missing".

Today (November 29), *The Times* publishes a letter from Martin Ennals, Secretary General of Amnesty International, where the handing over of the list is again mentioned.

On behalf of my Government, I wish to deny emphatically that such a list was ever presented to the Argentine authorities. The reports are completely false and may impair the good relations which prevailed in the talks on human rights and terrorism which took place between the Secretary of State's party and the Government of Argentina.

Yours faithfully,
RAFAEL M. GOWLAND,
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.,
Argentine Embassy.
9 Wilton Crescent, SW1.

The gender of 'man'

From Mr Neil Hamilton

Sir, Patrick Brogan reports amusingly from Washington today (November 24) on the absurdities of the female attempt to castrate all the ostensibly male words in the English language which embrace also the female sex in order to render our language hermaphroditic.

These personicidal personiacs have, in fact, been caught with their trousers down!

The origin of the word "man" does not lie in any antedeluvian male supremacism. In all the Teutonic languages the word has had the generic sense of "human being" as well as denoting the male gender. Further back the word emerges from the Indogermanic form: "men—", "mon—" meaning "to think".

Therefore, the primary meaning of the word refers to the intelligence as the distinctive characteristic of human beings as contrasted with brutes. It is no weakness in the above argument that the contrast daily diminishes.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient manservant
NEIL HAMILTON,
United Oxford and Cambridge University Club,
71 Pall Mall, SW1,
November 24.

Private health equipment

From Mr Alan B. Shrank

Sir, Your Science Editor states (November 24) "Most surprising is the fact that the only radiologists in the world to introduce this advanced equipment—the EMI scanner—into private practice are in Iran". No doubt this is due to the wealth generated by private practice in Iran, but I know that a group of radiologists in Northern France wished to purchase a scanner for their private practice, but the French Government refused to grant an import licence.

The reason given was that until the state hospitals were able to afford scanners, the facility should not be available in private practice. In this country the Health Services Board has the power to control development in private hospitals where this might prejudice the service in NHS hospitals, so the power exists here too. Since British radiologists are unlikely to have the funds to purchase a scanner anyway, such control may never be exerted here.

Yours faithfully,
A. B. SHRANK,
20 Crescent Place,
Town Walls,
Shrewsbury,
Shropshire,
November 24.

Preserving Burgh House

From Mr Frank Barton

Sir, Miss Joanna Richardson is mistaken when she writes, àpropos of Burgh House, that Camden (who are "wholly responsible for the building") "are obliged by law to maintain it". (*The Times*, November 25.)

The now considerable volume of legislation relating to listed buildings places no obligation on anyone to maintain a listed building. What it does do is to empower government (notably local authorities) to oblige any owner of a listed building to do so. The only absolute obligation that the legislation imposes is the obligation (on all owners) to seek listed building consent before altering the character of a listed building, or before demolishing a listed building.

The framing of the listed building legislation can thus give rise to the anomalous situation in which a local authority is neglecting its own listed building responsibilities (not obligations) and at the same time obliging other owners to fulfil theirs—which is essentially the situation that Miss Richardson's letter is highlighting.

Indeed the legislation cannot realistically decree that all listed buildings must be preserved since there are now over a third of a million of them. The legislation is so framed that it is the public readiness to foot the bill which effectively determines the level of preservation. It is thus an elegantly self-regulating piece of legislation designed to see that the public gets what it wants.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK BARTON,
7 Orchard Street, Cambridge.

Criticizing councils

From the Reverend A. L. Poulton

Sir, Many people will feel concerned at Lady Serota's latest report about local councils in her capacity as Ombudsman.

If the natural reaction of the local authority is to deny its shortcomings, it is surely intolerable that it should be allowed to do so with impunity.

The only way to inject a higher moral note into local government is to insist that councils are held accountable for their actions. Surely the system should be changed if the Ombudsman's findings are in no way enforceable.

Yours faithfully,
A. L. POULTON,
Lane End,
Great Mollington,
Chester.
November 23.

Fact or science fiction?

From Mr Michael Rubinstein

Sir, On Saturday evening, as you reported on Monday, November 28, a voice "purporting to be from outer space" was heard interrupting a Southern Television news programme. You report that the Independent Broadcasting Authority described this as a "hoax transmission . . . the first of its kind in Britain" and you quote it as saying: "We do not know what the source of it was or how it got on the air".

How then can the IBA—or anyone else—be sure that the broadcast was a hoax

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RUBINSTEIN,
4, 5 and 6 Raymond Buildings,
Gray's Inn, WC1.

Welsh nicknames

From Dr J. D. Spillane

Sir, Good Trevor Fishlock (November 26), I am sure, would also like to doff his hat to the Welsh village spinster whose overpowdered face earned her the nickname of Martha Self Raising.

Yours faithfully,
J. D. SPILLANE,
Prescelly,
Newport,
Pembrokeshire,
Dyfed,

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 29: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Prince of Wales, President, attended a Charity Evening at the Circus Tavern, Purfleet, in aid of The Prince's Trust and The Prince of Wales' Committee for the Welsh Environment Foundation.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 29: Major-General D. N. H. Tyacke today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Light Infantry, upon relinquishing his appointment as Colonel of the Regiment.

Major-General P. J. Bush also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Colonel of The Light Infantry.

The Lady Jean Rankin has succeeded the Hon Mrs John Mulholland as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

KENSINGTON PALACE
November 29: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester was present at a Silver Jubilee Presentation Concert given by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall this evening.

Miss Jane Egerton-Warburton was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Prior, this afternoon attended The Grand Prior's Trophy Competition of the St John Ambulance at the Seymour Hall and presented awards to the winning teams.

In the evening His Royal Highness was present at a dinner given by The National Sporting Club in aid of The Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal Fund at the Café Royal.

During the course of the evening His Royal Highness watched the Bantamweight Championship of Great Britain.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
November 29: The Duke of Kent, Patron of the National Army Museum, this morning visited the Museum and later attended the Twenty-fourth Meeting of the Council held at the Ministry of Defence, Whitehall.

Captain James Greenfield was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
November 29: Princess Alexandra this afternoon presented Long Service Badges to Queen's Nurses of the Queen's Nursing Institute at Merchant Taylors' Hall.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness was represented by Miss Mona Mitchell at the Memorial Service for Major Denis Beatson-Hird which was held at the Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen this morning.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will attend the Christmas party of the "Not Forgotten" Association at the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace, on December 15.

Princess Margaret ill

Princess Margaret has bronchitis and, on the advice of her doctor, has cancelled all engagements for the rest of this week, Kensington Palace said yesterday.

Birthdays today

Mr Ivor Bulmer-Thomas, 72; Sir John Burder, 77; Mr W. H. Carr, 61; Sir Walter Coutts, 65; Mr Justice Rees, 70; Mr Max Reinhardt, 62; Colonel Sir Ian Walker-Okeover, 75.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Grimsby, to be parliamentary private secretary to Mr Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and *Consumer Protection*.

Mrs Evangeline Hunter-Jones, a magistrate in Inner London, to be a member of the Gaming Board for Great Britain from December 1.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. Pratt, secretary for public relations, Salvation Army International Headquarters, to be chief secretary of the United States Western Territory, Los Angeles, from January 1. He will be succeeded by Major S. Armstrong, from Toronto.

Today's engagements

The Prince of Wales, as chairman, opens exhibition of Royal Cartoons, Press Club, Shoe Lane, City, in aid of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal Fund, 11; as president, presents prizes, Royal Aero Club's annual prize-giving, Royal Automobile Club, Pall Mall, 6.

The Duke of Kent, as President of Scout Association, attends meeting of committee of council, Baden-Powell House, 11.25; as president, attends committee meeting of Imperial War Museum, 12.50; attends Professional Wrestling Tournament, Albert Hall, in aid of Silver Jubilee Appeal Fund, 7.25.

Princess Alexandra attends reception for opening of Burlington International Fine Art Fair, Royal Academy of Arts, 7.15.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon Richard Pleydell-Bouverie and Miss V. M. Waldron

The engagement is announced between Richard Oakley, son of the late Earl of Radnor and of the Dowager Countess of Radnor, of Avonturn, Alderbury, Salisbury, and Victoria, younger daughter of Mr Frank Waldron, of Pond House, Kidmore End, near Reading, and of Mrs Richard Dominick, of The Wedge, McClellanville, South Carolina.

Mr J. S. B. Bassett and Miss M. L. Dawson

The engagement is announced between John, son of Dr and Mrs K. H. Bassett, of Penarth, South Glamorgan, and Marilyn Lesley, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. L. Dawson, of Ashford Hill, Hampshire.

Mr N. P. Bastian and Miss P. C. Marriott

The engagement is announced between Nicholas Paul, son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Bastian, of Mylor Church Town, Cornwall, and Paula, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. H. Marriott, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr D. W. Cheyne and Miss J. G. McA. Passey

The engagement is announced between David, second son of the late Brigadier W. W. Cheyne, DSO, OBE, and Mrs W. W. Cheyne, of 12 Crondace Road, SW6, and Gay, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. Passey, of The Hall, Kirkby Fleetham, Northallerton, Yorkshire.

Dr A. E. Mourant and Mrs J. C. Shimell

The engagement is announced between Arthur, son of the late Mr and Mrs E. C. Mourant, of Jersey, and Jean, daughter of the late Mr J. A. Dickson and of Mrs Dickson, of London.

Mr A. R. A. Urquhart and Miss E. E. Pitkethly

The engagement is announced between Alexander Robert Adam, son of Major-General and Mrs R. E. Urquhart, of Bigram, Port of Menteith, Perthshire, and Elizabeth Edgar, daughter of Mr and Mrs James A. Pitkethly, of Avondale, Lenzie, Glasgow.

Marriage

Mr A. Leithead and Dr M. Barton

The marriage took place on November 26, at the Church of St John the Baptist, Old Malden, Surrey, between Mr Andrew Leithead and Dr Moyna Barton.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Dalgety was christened Richard Hugh by the Rev John Page at St Peter's, East Tytherley, Hampshire, on Sunday. The godparents are Mr Dieter Dent, Mr John Halford, Miss Tessa Codrington, Mrs Rupert Lycett-Green and Mrs Christopher Palmer-Tomkinson.

Gray's Inn

The Masters of the Bench of Gray's Inn have granted the following junior scholarships and awards:

Bacon Scholarship, D. P. Pannick, Hertford C. Oxford. Holt Scholarship and Harold Langrish Prize: J. B. Greenbourne, Trinity C. Cambridge. Uthwatt Scholarship: P. Findley, Trinity C. Oxford.
Bacon, Holt and Uthwatt Prizes: P. D. Bradley, Exeter Univ; C. S. Hollander, King's C. Cambridge; A. P. Levinson, Jesus C. Cambridge. Holker Entrance Award: G. C. M. Mitchell, King's C. London; Miss S. L. Burns, Liverpool Univ. Cynthia Terry Award: Miss C. M. Andrews, Manchester Univ. Gerald Moody Award: R. G. Spencer, Emmanuel C. Cambridge. Society's entrance awards: C. H. Aston, Trinity C. Cambridge; N. S. Baatz, Christ Church, Oxford; E. A. Cole, Jesus C. Oxford; P. Findley, Trinity C. Oxford; S. D. M. Freeland, Manchester Univ; C. P. J. Fitzgibbon, Brasenose C. Oxford; C. A. Haddon-Cave, Pembroke C. Cambridge; Miss R. A. Jeffreys, Bristol Univ; A. H. Korn, Magdalen C. Oxford; A. P. Levinson, Jesus C. Cambridge; Miss M. N. E. O'Dwyer, Birmingham Univ; C. M. L. Osborne, Christ Church, Oxford; D. Railton, Balliol C. Oxford; R. C. Secord, Durham Univ; R. T. Tremaine, Trinity H. Cambridge.

Royal Society medals

Royal Medals have been awarded by the Royal Society to the following:

Sir Peter Hirsch, FRS, Isaac Wolfson Professor of Metallurgy, Oxford University, for studies of the structures and properties of imperfect crystals, and determination of atomic and crystallographic processes that enable strong alloys to be hardened by plastic working.
Dr H. E. Huxley, FRS, member of scientific staff, Medical Research Council, Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, for research on the structure of muscle and on the molecular mechanisms of the contractile process.
Dr J. B. Adams, FRS, executive director-general, European Organization for Nuclear Research (Cern), Geneva, for contributions to the design and operation of high-energy particle accelerators.

Cambridge Union

Mr Andrew Mitchell, who is reading history in his third year at Jesus College, has been elected president of the Cambridge Union Society. Mr Daniel Janner, reading law in his second year at Trinity Hall, is the new secretary, and Mr Robert Harris, reading English in his third year at Selwyn College, vice-president.

Haberdashers' Company

Mr R. E. Liddiard has been elected Master of the Haberdashers' Company for the ensuing year, with Major-General Sir John Bates, Mr H. C. Quitman, Mr M. A. B. Jenks and Mr M. L. Hall as Wardens.

English-speaking Union

Lord Goodman delivered the 1977 Churchill Lecture arranged by the English-Speaking Union at Dartmouth House last night. Sir Patrick Dean, chairman of the ESU, presided, and Mr Winston Churchill, MP, proposed a vote of thanks.

Drawings by Raphael are sold for £64,000

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's offered two fragmentary drawings by Raphael for sale yesterday, which made £38,000 and £26,000. Both were bought by David Carritt, of Artemis, London. Christie's had been predicting a price of about £40,000, or perhaps a little more, on each.

The two drawings are fragments of a composition study of the "Charge to St Peter", which was made in preparation for Raphael's tapestry cartoon now lent by the Queen to the Victoria and Albert Museum. The fragments are tiny red chalk drawings, 67mm by 116mm and 84mm by 116mm, one containing the heads of five apostles, the other St John and two apostles.

The other important drawing in the sale was "A river landscape with the journey to Emmaus", by Pieter Breughel the Elder, a composition engraved by Hieronymus Cock in about 1553-55. It was sold to the Royal Museum, Antwerp, for £28,000 (estimate £30,000.

Other museum purchases included Prudhon's "Seated lady reading in an interior" at £5,500 (estimate £5,000 to £8,000), bought by Calmann for the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, and Van Dyck's "St Lawrence chained to the gridiron", bought by Calmann for Berlin at £2,000 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000).

The sale appeared to indicate that Old Master drawings remain a very specialized interest; there was an unusually interesting selection of drawings but few new buyers.

The two-session sale totalled £282,005, with 19 per cent unsold. Northern drawings appeared in more demand than Italian ones. A fine drawing of a landscape with trees near a river by an artist whose name is unknown but who is referred to as "the Master of the Winter Landscapes", made £8,000 (estimate £1,500 to £2,000), to Tunick.

In Hongkong yesterday Sotheby's held a sale of important Chinese ceramics and works of art totalling £1,222,021, with 10 per cent unsold. The top price was HK$860,000 (estimate $700,000 to $900,000, or £101,385, paid by a Hongkong private collector for a Ming blue-and-white Mei P'ing and cover for about 1400; in a Sotheby's sale in London in April, 1974, it made £160,000. An early Ming copper-red decorated bowl went for $580,000 (estimate $350,000 to $450,000), or £68,376, to C. C. Lai, of Hongkong.

Eskenazi, of London, paid $500,000 (estimate $300,000 to $400,000) for a pair of *famille rose* chrysanthemum vases. $420,000 (estimate $200,000 to $300,000), or £49,513, for an early Ming turquoise glazed dish, and $370,000 (estimate $200,000 to $300,000), or £43,619, for a large *famille rose* jar decorated with flowers in Chinese taste.

An auction record price was established at Christie's yesterday for an English gold box, when a Charles I tobacco box 3¼ inches high was sold for £26,000. It is applied and chased with a profile of the monarch within an openwork floral boarder and dates from about 1640.

The Ming blue-and-white Mei P'ing sold for £101,385.

Doubts over move by LSO to the Barbican

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

Doubt has arisen over the plan for the London Symphony Orchestra to move into a new home at the Barbican Arts Centre, in the City of London, when the centre is opened in 1980.

Since 1966 it has been generally accepted that the LSO would become the resident orchestra in the concert hall of the arts centre, and the hall has been tailor-made to the orchestra's instructions. But it now appears uncertain whether the orchestra will make the move.

If the LSO plan is dropped both the *London Philharmonic Orchestra* and the Philharmonia would be considered in its place.

Much has changed since 1966. Originally it was planned that the LSO would run the 2,000-seat concert hall; now the City has assumed responsibility. The City also faces the question of whether the LSO in 1977 is the same orchestra as in 1966.

A particular difficulty, as yet unresolved, is the question of the orchestra's subsidy, which is given by the Arts Council and the Greater London Council, through the London Orchestral Concerts Board, to help to pay for concerts at the Festival Hall.

City officials suggest that the LSO is worried about risking its future operations by moving to the Barbican and wants to be assured by the City that it is to its financial advantage to move.

Mr Michael Kaye, managing director of the LSO, denied that there was any real doubt, and said the orchestra was still committed to the plan. But he agreed: "It is a big step and we have to look at it very carefully."

He explained that the whole basis of the operation was changing as the economic situation altered. "We now have been able to tell the City what it is going to cost for a commitment and they are studying the figures."

An orchestra will not be the only occupant of the new concert hall. The centre management is planning a wide variety of light entertainment.

During the day the octagonal hall, with seats on three levels, will be used also as a conference centre.

The arts centre, which is expected to cost more than £60m, should open in 1980, two years later than planned, because of industrial disputes and construction difficulties.

Mr Henry Wrong, administrator of the centre, said it was hoped to move in towards the end of 1979, which would allow time to overcome any difficulties.

As well as the concert hall, the centre will contain a theatre occupied by the Royal Shakespeare Company, a large art gallery, a cinema, and a lending library.

OBITUARY

CARLO CASALEGNO

Deputy Editor of 'La Stampa'

Carlo Casalegno, deputy editor of *La Stampa*, died yesterday after being shot and wounded by terrorists on November 16. He was 61.

Casalegno was born in Turin on February 15, 1916. He studied literature at Turin University and was teaching it in a school in Casale Monferrato when Italy entered the war. He joined the resistance movement, acting both as liaison between partisan groups and a writer in the clandestine press.

In 1946 he joined the staff of *Il Popolo*, but soon went to *Stampa Sera*, moving then to *La Stampa* where he worked for the next 30 years. He was appointed deputy editor, the position he held when the terrorists made their attack which, unlike other attacks on journalists, was clearly intended to kill him.

He was married with one son.

LORD ROSSLYN

Lady Drogheda writes:

Tony Rosslyn's death came as a great shock to his friends, and means a sad loss. He was not only a lovable companion, gay, apparently carefree, affectionate, full of jokes with an almost schoolboyish sense of fun—but he was also a wonderful friend, and his friends came from all walks of life. He shunned the limelight, but whenever anyone was in trouble he would come to the rescue—his kindness and generosity were unlimited.

One did not realize that beneath his gaiety he suffered from deep, black depressions which he managed to hide from the world. Only his very closest friends could have known.

Although we saw him so rarely in late years, because he was always so elusive and impossible to get hold of, he will always be remembered by all his friends with much love, affection and appreciation.

MME JACQUES MASSU

Mme Jacques Massu, whose husband, General Jacques Massu, who played an influential part in bringing back to power General de Gaulle in 1958, died in Paris on November 25 at the age of 70.

During the Second World War, Mme Massu held the rank of major and headed the Rochambeau ambulance unit which served in General Leclerc's Free French second *armoured division in* France and Germany. The unit served in Indochina in 1945-1946. In Algeria she *ran* a home for Muslim orphans. She was born Suzanne Rosambert and she was a highly intelligent woman who shared her husband's career and was of much service to him. They had one daughter and twin adopted Algerian sons.

Herr Fred Oelssner, a former member of the East German ruling politburo during the ascendancy of Walter Ulbricht, has died at the age of 74. He had been the chief editor of the magazine *Einheit*.

DR KURT VON SCHUSCHNIGG

Lord Gore-Booth writes:

As one who was a junior secretary at the British Legation in Vienna in 1936-37, I was glad that *The Times* devoted considerable space to an obituary of Dr Kurt von Schuschnigg.

As Austrian Federal Chancellor after the murder of his predecessor, Dr von Schuschnigg showed himself deeply religious, austere in manner and authoritarian in policy. When Mussolini withdrew support from Austria, Schuschnigg resorted to the only policy left to him, an "independent (culturally) German Austria".

Incessant Nazi pressure led to further concessions until the next one would have meant surrender. With great courage, Schuschnigg refused and put the question to his people, thereby drawing grim suffering on himself in the following years.

Two years ago, my wife and I, through the kindness of a friend, called on Dr von Schuschnigg in his retirement in a quiet village near Innsbruck. During 10 academic years in America, a country to which he came to owe a great deal, he had developed a gentle serenity, coupled with a twinkle in the eye which he had never shown as Chancellor.

It was not an occasion for politics. But I did ask him whether there was, in his time as Chancellor, any matter which he now thought he should have handled differently. "I should have realised earlier" he replied without a trace of rancour, "that if a serious threat came to Austrian independence, I could not expect help from France and Britain".

MR R. H. B. SNOW

Mr Richard Henry Barter Snow, CBE, Director of Medical Services, Bahrain Government, from 1960 to 1970, died on November 21. He had served with the NW Frontier Indian Hospital Church Missionary Society from 1933 to 1940. From 1940 he was successively State Medical Officer; Chief Medical Officer; and DMS in Bahrain. He was made a CBE in 1970.

Luncheons

Lady Mayoress
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained the following guests at luncheon at the Mansion House yesterday:
Lord and Lady Reigate, Air Marshal Sir Maurice and Lady Heath, Alderman Sir Edward and Lady Howard, Mr and Mrs Julian Martin Smith, Mr and Mrs Timothy Hedley, Professor and Mrs Roger Gilliatt, the Remembrancer and Mrs Peacock, and Mr Malcolm Valentine and Miss Caroline Charles.

Lord Westbury
Mrs Marcel Wallace presented an ambulance fully equipped for the St John Ambulance Aero Medical Service to Lord Caccia, Lord Prior of the Order of St John, at a luncheon at the House of Lords yesterday. Among those present were:
Sir Gilbert Inglefield, Chancellor of the Order, Lord Gray of Naunton, Earl St Aldwyn, Lord Westbury, all members of the Chapter General of the Order of St John, and Lord Aberdare, Prior of the Order of St John in Wales.

Law Society
The President of the Law Society, Mr Richard Denby, held a luncheon party at 60 Carey Street, yesterday. The guests were:
The Ambassador of Mexico, Lady Plowden, Sir George Baker, Sir Edward Singleton, Mr J. W. Bourne, Mr T. C. Hetherington, Mr J. C. Palmer, Mr P. A. Verdin, and Mr J. L. Bowron (secretary-general).

Elga Products Limited
Mr David M. Moreau and Dr Diana M. Lorch, on behalf of Elga Products Limited, entertained leaders of the Church, science, the arts, industry, community welfare and sport at the twenty-third Leadership Lunch yesterday held at the Café Royal. The guests of honour were Sir Charles Forte and Mr John Garnett, Mr W. F. Lorch presided.

United Kingdom South Africa Trade Association
Mr W. E. Luke, President of the United Kingdom South Africa Trade Association, was host on the occasion of the twelfth annual council luncheon held at Grosvenor House, on Tuesday, November 29. Among those present were Mr Matthys L. Botha, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa, Sir David Scott, United Kingdom Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa, and the founder president of the association, Sir Nicholas Cayzer. The speakers were the chief guest, Viscount Watkinson, President of the Confederation of British Industry, and Mr P. P. Dunkley, chairman of the association.

Receptions

HM Government
Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State, Department of Trade, was host at a reception held at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday evening in honour of Mr Lia Chiang, Minister of Foreign Trade of the People's Republic of China.

HM Government
Mr Gavin Strang, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was host at a reception given at Lancaster House yesterday evening by her Majesty's Government in honour of delegates attending the ninth session of the Codex Committee on Fats and Oils.

East European Trade Council
The East European Trade Council gave a reception at the Savoy Hotel last night to mark the appointment of Lord Shackleton as its chairman. Lord Shackleton received the guests, who included:
The ambassadors of Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, Mongolia, the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria and Hungary.

Nova Scotia
Rear-Admiral Desmond W. Piers, RCN (retd), Agent General of Nova Scotia, was host at a reception last night to welcome the Select Committee on Rules and Procedures of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly, who are visiting Britain. The committee, led by the Speaker of the House, Mr George Doucet, includes Mr John Buchanan, leader of the Conservative Opposition and Mr Jeremy Akerman, leader of the New Democratic Party in Nova Scotia. The guests included members of the House of Commons, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and officers of the Canadian High Commission in London.

Dinners

National Sporting Club
The Duke of Gloucester was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the National Sporting Club at the Café Royal yesterday evening. A boxing tournament in aid of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal Fund was held afterwards. Air Chief Marshal Sir Augustus Walker, chairman of the club, presided. Others present included:
Sir Charles Forte, president of the club; Lord Hirshfield, Lord Wakefield of Kendal, Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader, Sir Vivian Fuchs, Sir Len Hutton, Sir Alf Ramsey, Sir Stanley Rous, Major Derek Alhusen, Mr Charles Amer, Mr Paul Amos, Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland, Mr Harold Bermitz, Mr Maurice Barry, Mr Leslie Batt, Mr Tony Blumenthal, Mr Derek Crouch, Mr Henry Cooper, Mr Denis Compton, Mr John Dawes, Mr John Day, Mr Gareth Edwards, Mr Peter Fatharly, Mr Kenneth Hall, Mr Derek Hornby, Mr Michael Hughesden, Mr Martin Kullman, Mr Richard Meade, Mr Adrian Metcalfe, Mr Arthur Rees, Mr Paul Rooke-Ley, Mr Barnet Shine, Mr Jackie Stewart, Group Captain Harry Summers, Mr M. Tsafrir and Mr Billy Wright.

Anglo-Indonesian Society
The annual dinner of the Anglo-Indonesian Society was held at the Royal Commonwealth Society last night. Mr Norman Collins was the guest of honour and the chairman of the society, Baroness Vickers, presided. The Indonesian Ambassador and Mme Subono were among those present.

Canning House
Lord Chalfont, President of the *Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Council* was host at a dinner given by the council at the Inn on the Park Hotel last night in honour of the Latin American ambassadors. The guests included:
The ambassadors of Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela, Chargé d'Affaires and representatives from the embassies of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Nicaragua and Portugal, Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Lord Peart, Lord Cole, Sir Leslie Bowes, Sir George Bolton, Sir Duncan Oppenheim, Sir Reay Geddes and members of the executive committee and the economic affairs committee of Canning House.

Good Relations Group Limited
Baroness Young was the guest speaker at a private dinner party given by the directors of the Good Relations Group at Tallow Chandlers' Hall yesterday. Mr Anthony B. M. Good, chairman, presided, and other guests were:
Mr Robin Bray, Mr Jock Bruce-Gardyne, Mr Nicholas Coral, Mr Michael Green, Mr John Gwynn, Mr Alan Howarth, Mr Freddy Lawson, Mr Tony Lister, Mr Nigel Mobbs, Mr Frank Phillips, Mr Stephen Proctor, Mr Geoffrey Rose, Mr Anthony Thorne, Mr John Wakeham, MP, and Mr Cecil Woodburn-Bamberger.

Harvard Law School Association of the United Kingdom
The American Ambassador and Mrs Kingman Brewster were the guests of honour of the Harvard Law School Association of the United Kingdom at a dinner held at Gray's Inn Hall. The guests, who included Judge Everett, QC, Treasurer of Gray's Inn, Lord Justice and Lady Megaw and Mrs R. H. Maudsley, were received by the chairman of the association, Professor Ronald Graveson, QC, and Mrs Graveson.

Church news

Appointments:

The Rev J. de B. Bateman, Vicar of Hornsea with Atwick, diocese of York, to be priest-in-charge of Harome, Pockley and Stonegrave with Nunnington, same diocese, pending scheme for united benefice.
The Rev A. J. Burdon, curate of Church Stretton, diocese of Hereford, to be candidates' secretary of the Church Pastoral Aid Society.
The Rev R. C. A. Carey, Vicar of Claygate, diocese of Guildford, to be Rector of Holy Trinity with St Mary's, Guildford.
The Rev G. P. Chidgey, Rector of St Martin's, Great Mongeham, diocese of Canterbury, to be Rector of All Saints, Lydd, same diocese.
The Rev R. J. Gilpin, pastor of Gustav Adolf Kirchengemeinde, Berlin, and formerly curate of Christ Church, Davyhulme, diocese of Manchester, to be Rector of Christ Church with All Saints', Heaton Norris, diocese of Manchester.
The Rev A. M. J. Halsey, curate of St Werburgh's, Derby, to be chaplain of Canford School, diocese of Salisbury.
The Rev R. C. Hingley, assistant warden to the Iona Community, and formerly curate of Old Charlton, diocese of Southwark, to be Team Vicar in the Langley Team Ministry, diocese of Oxford.
The Rev M. S. Jones, curate of Hexham Abbey, diocese of Newcastle, to be priest-in-charge of St John's, Killingworth, same diocese.
The Rev W. E. McBay, Vicar of Farndon and Rector of Thorpe, diocese of Southwell and canon emeritus of the diocese of Owerri, Nigeria to be Vicar of Swinefleet, diocese of Sheffield.
The Rev J. T. Roe, secretary for the Ripon Diocesan Board of Mission and Unity and Diocesan Missionary, to be canon-residentiary of Carlisle Cathedral, with responsibility for post-ordination training and adult education.
The Rev A. Wilson, Vicar of Altofts, diocese of Wakefield, to be Vicar of Staincross, same diocese.

Diocese of Lichfield
The Rev N. J. Charrington, priest-in-charge of Christ Church, Wellington, to be Rector of Edgmond.
The Rev R. M. Grace, Vicar of St Francis's, Friar Park, West Bromwich, to be priest-in-charge of Salt.
The Rev G. M. Smallwood, Team Rector of Cannock and Rural Dean of Rugeley, to be canon-residentiary and Custos of Lichfield Cathedral.

Diocese of Norwich
The Rev A. J. Adamson, Rector of Reedham, to be also priest-in-charge of Cantley with Limpenhoe and Southwood.
The Rev T. B. Fyffe, Team Vicar in the Lowestoft Group, to be Rural Dean of Lothingland.
The Rev P. Halls, Vicar of Freethorpe with Wickhampton and Halvergate with Tunstall, to be also priest-in-charge of Beighton with Moulton.

Resignations and retirements
The Rev J. C. Cunningham, Rector of Churchill-in-Halfshire with Blakedown, diocese of Worcester.
The Rev J. E. Earle, Rector of Norton St Philip with Hemington, Hardington and Laverton, diocese of Bath and Wells (Jan 31), and also as Rural Dean of Frome.
The Rev D. M. Greenhalgh, Vicar of Shirley, Southampton, diocese of Winchester (April 30).
The Rev A. K. Thomas, Rector of Charlton Musgrove, diocese of Bath and Wells, as Rural Dean of Bruton (Dec 31).

Latest wills

Dr Bronowski leaves £6,970 estate in UK

Dr Jacob Bronowski, of La Tolla, California, the scientist, writer and broadcaster, who died in 1974, left estate in England and Wales valued at £6,970 net.

Dorothy Helen Woodall, of Chesterfield, left £45,496 net. She left all her property to the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid; tax not disclosed):

Baulk, Mr Horace Edward, of Kidderminster, nurseryman .. £110,608
Fraser, Mr Ian, of Shrewsbury, civil engineer £105,993
Hartley, Mrs Mary, of Bournemouth £671,407
Thompson, Mr Bruce Logan, of Windermere £169,080

British Museum

The British Museum will not be open to the public until 11 am tomorrow because staff are holding a union meeting as part of a "week of action" over pay.

University news

Belfast
A grant of £20,600 has been given by the Science Research Council to the department of computer science for research on application oriented languages, under Dr J. Welsh and R. M. McKeag.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, Nov 29, 1952

National service

It is not possible to reduce the present period of two years' national service because of world commitments and the small prospect of a diminution of the cold war, Mr Head, Secretary of State for War, stated at a press conference in London yesterday. He said that the Coronation was not the reason for the suspension of the short recall of class Z reservists next year, and although he could not say it was finished for ever, future action would be decided later. Mr Head said that the necessity for two years' service had been questioned recently, notably by Mr Shinwell, but the Government were convinced that for the time being and in present circumstances it could not be reduced. The general response to this burdensome and unwelcome measure had been so good that it would be a pity for the country and the services if there were doubt of its necessity.

Science report

Cancer: Chinese find cause in diet

A massive relocation of population in China has provided doctors with clues to the causes of a kind of throat cancer that is usually common in regions of northern China. American cancer specialists who have just returned from China report a long-term study by the Chinese which seems to show that that type of oesophageal cancer is caused by a particular way of preparing food.

It is well known that different types of cancer are much more common in different parts of the world and among people of different ethnic origin and life style. That has been taken to mean that much cancer may be caused by environmental factors, of which diet may be one of the most important. Contamination of food in the tropics with a mould that produces a suspected carcinogen is apparently related to the much greater incidence of liver cancer in the tropics, and the link between smoking and lung cancer is now unquestioned. But the causes of most cancers have proved much more difficult to trace.

In some regions of northern China cancer of the oesophagus is much more common than in the rest of the country and the incidence in those regions is one of the highest in the world, some 50 times that among white Americans, for example. In those regions a cancer of the gullet is also much more common than usual among the chickens the people keep around their homes and farms. That led cancer epidemiologists to suspect that that particular cancer was being caused by environmental factors and that the cancers in chickens and humans might have similar causes.

However, the search for the responsible carcinogen, which might be in food, soil or water, or be generated by a particular way of preparing food, looked like being a long and tedious, if not impossible, undertaking until a population relocation was undertaken in 1967-68 to allow a new dam to be built. That provided the right natural experiment to test the various theories.

More than 50,000 people were relocated from Linhsien county, in the province of Honan, where oesophageal and gullet cancers are fairly common, to Chungshan county, where both are rare. The farmers did not take their chickens with them but bought new birds from flocks free of gullet cancer when they arrived. Within five years, however, 12 of 5,484 chickens purchased had developed gullet cancer, although no cases had been reported in the 2,400 chickens belonging to the native Chungshan population. Oesophageal cancer also developed in the owners, or their neighbours, of five of the chickens which developed gullet cancer.

That points strongly to an environmental cause rather than simply a hereditary susceptibility, since the chickens were from flocks that had been almost free of that type of cancer. It also points to a source within the confines of the household, and which moved with the people, rather than to a carcinogen confined to the Linhsien environment.

One suspect agent is a pickled vegetable mix, a speciality of the Linhsien people, which would be fed to the chickens with other table scraps. That mix often develops a fungal growth after months in the pickle pot. The mix has been analysed, and nitrosamines, a group of chemicals thought to be carcinogenic, have been found in it.

The Chinese are trying to prevent that and other types of cancer suspected of having an environmental cause by various public health measures, including soil treatment to correct a supposed mineral deficiency, change in water supply, more careful grain drying to prevent fungal growth, and by persuading the people not to eat foods suspected of containing nitrosamines. As Dr Robert W. Miller, of the United States National Cancer Institute, who went on the Chinese visit, points out, switching the feed of the chickens from table scraps to grain only might pinpoint the cause exactly.

By Nature-Times News Service
© Nature-Times News Service, 1977.

THE ARTS

London debuts

The name of the Allegri Quartet may appear out of place in this column, but after their recent re-formation the Allegri must count as a new ensemble. They have a new first violin in Peter Carter, former leader of the Delme Quartet, and a new viola in Prunella Pacey; David Roth and Bruno Schrecker remain at their posts.

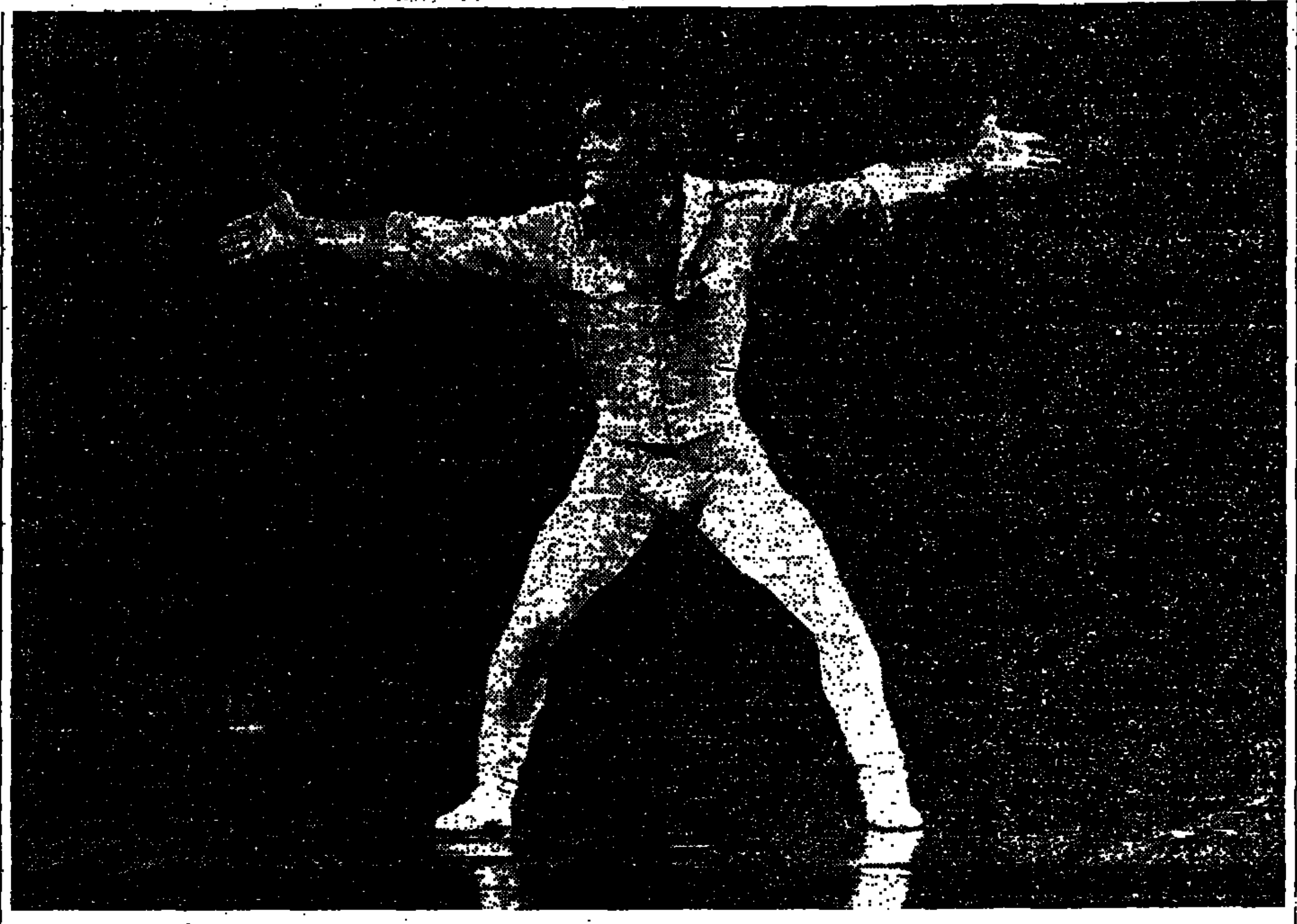
At their "debut recital" the quartet played Haydn, Beethoven's Op 95 and the Brahms A minor quartet: nothing exceptional in that, but there was in the playing. Mr Carter's voice, unpresuming but always finely musical, appears to have encouraged a more refined and internally consistent style than we have heard from the Allegri hitherto. This was amicable quartet-playing, graced by delicately pointed detail from Mr Schrecker and sweet tone from Miss Pacey, but remarkable above all for the classical balance and the intuitive rapport which the musicians have so quickly achieved.

I was sorry that I had to leave the recital early in order to hear the tenor Anthony Roden, but his singing provided its own rewards. Mr Roden is already familiar as a leading lyric tenor at Glyndebourne and the Coliseum. Here, however, he chose no operatic arias but a programme of Lieder and Italian songs. His performance of Strauss's acutely difficult *Gesänge des Orients* tested him to the limits of his agility, and just beyond, though their hurdles could not keep him from expressing all the inner rapture of these songs in his exquisitely placed singing. The calmer numbers, in particular, brought out a jewel-like combination of precision and opulence.

Mr Roden aptly found a freer, more easily produced manner for a group of short songs by Respighi and Wolf-Ferrari. In these his sunny, Italianate tone was always beautiful and often exciting, though his folksong encore, "Sally Gardens", proved again that his most valuable gifts are those of intelligent phrasing and sensitivity to words. Geoffrey Parsons was the masterly accompanist.

The week's solo pianist was Mamiko Suda, who is now studying in London after gaining a *premier prix* at the Paris Conservatoire. As one might expect from that distinction, her playing is unfailingly accomplished, polished in detail to a high degree. Indeed, her first notes, those of Mozart's variations on "Ah, vous dirai-je, maman", had me thinking of a gently stroked bell rather than hammered strings. As the recital proceeded, however, I began to tire of such small-scale perfections. Miss Suda's playing, above all in Schubert's C minor sonata D 958, showed little sense of when a more weighty style might be appropriate, so that her ability to expound musical forms was as limited as her expressive range. She displays every sign of developing into a good musician, but development is needed.

Paul Griffiths



Vladimir Vassiliev as Petrushka

Béjart does his own Petrushka

Béjart, Vassiliev, *Petrushka*: the conjunction of western Europe's most popular and controversial choreographer, the Bolshoi Ballet's greatest male dancer and one of the most famous ballet scores of this century could hardly fail to be exciting. It was equally predictable that the iconoclastic Maurice Béjart would not be content with a traditional interpretation of the work.

Only the Forest-National, a huge sports hall where Béjart's Ballet of the 20th Century customarily presents its big spectaculars in Brussels, was big enough to hold the audience for a Stravinsky season with the new *Petrushka* as the climax of every performance. A pity, because there the audience, several thousand strong, have to sit on three sides of a thrust stage. The space available on that and the adjoining balconies has been cleverly used, but the ballet remains one that would best be seen from the front on a large proscenium stage.

You might guess that the puppets have vanished from the plot. There need not be too many tears shed over that. In principle, a ballet with a man as its leading character should hold more interest than one about a puppet. In fact, I think that Béjart's plot might have been stronger if he had got even farther away from the original, looking for a real-life equivalent of the central trio of rivalries.

He starts as if that might have been his intention, with a trio of a young man, his girl friend and another man enjoying themselves together at a fair. But their relationship remains a bland, friendly one, with no clashes and no dramatic implications. After the first scene the girl and the second man lose their prominence in the action.

There is, however, still a mysterious magician who comes out of a fairground booth. He produces not Petrushka, the ballerina and the moor but three masks representing their faces. The friends put these on and dance in them, just for amusement. Only the young man afterwards remains spellbound and follows the magician back into the booth.

During the next two scenes he tries each mask in turn, taking on the characteristics it suggests. From trick mirrors at the back of the stage a trio of men emerge; they are similarly masked and echo his actions mockingly. When he removes the last mask, they retain theirs and continue to plague him. Outside, the fair continues. The young man returns, dream-struck, and takes little notice of his friends. In his eyes the whole crowd is masked, and at the end he remains alone, unsure any more which is his own nature, which assumed.

Potentially it seems quite an interesting theme, except that there is no reason why a healthy extrovert young fellow should suddenly imagine himself a romantic dreamer, let alone a dancing girl or a black man. Consequently the drama seems both arbitrary and implausible. Still, I suppose that is true of the original *Petrushka*, too, so the worst to be said in this respect is that Béjart has missed the chance to improve on his model.

In one respect his production is much inferior, namely the designs. Benois's loving evocation of traditional St Petersburg would hardly suit his purposes, but Joëlle Roustan and Roger Bernard come nowhere near creating a comparable world of fantasy.

They have their moments. The first sight of the magician's booth is impressive, with onion domes surrounded by strings of electric lamps, rather as if the Kremlin had been transported to Tivoli Gardens. But the fairground crowd are dressed in the nondescript stylization of everyday clothes favoured by Russian folk companies, making them look very drab and anonymous.

Drab, that is, until the moment when Vladimir Vassiliev gets up from a bench where he has been sitting, strolls smiling *to the centre of the stage*, tosses his peaked cap to one side and starts to dance. Whenever he is the centre of interest, and that is most of the ballet, it blazes with life.

Even before the point where Petrushka makes his first entrance in the familiar Fokine production, Vassiliev has already danced several solos and a duet. An attractive, frank humour combines with the tenderness of the dance with his girl friend (charmingly played by Katalin Csarnoy at the performance I saw) and *with the virtuosity of the solos.* For those with long memories, the character he presents at this point may slightly *resemble his role in The Little Humpbacked Horse*, very early in his career: a naive, but shrewd peasant.

Transformed by his masks, Vassiliev becomes in turn sadly introspective, then feminine (but never effeminate) and next a brash, gangling monster. I suppose it is the influence of the music that has led Béjart to show the blackamoor more like an ape than a man, with low, swinging hands and a crouched walk, but that does come as rather a shock from a man of *his liberal sensitivity.*

The heights of Vassiliev's performance are reached in the last scene, with his somnabulistic walk through the crowds, his despair as they seem to turn on him, and the infinitely puzzled loneliness of his final moments, alone on stage as the lights fade, leaving a single spotlight on his face until the ironic final bar of the music.

The virtuosity and the stamina needed for this role are daunting, but I am sure Béjart will find other dancers capable of emulating Vassiliev *in those respects.* What is unique about him is the character he brings to his performance: not just in the sense of assuming the character of the role, but of illuminating it with his own humanity. More and more I become convinced that is what distinguishes the truly great dancers from the rest.

John Percival

The Hardman
ICA

Ned Chaillet

When *The Hardman* was first announced in Edinburgh the author was said to be Tom McGrath, whose *Mr Laurel and Mr Hardy* appeared last year at the Mayfair Theatre. Now, arriving at the ICA, it bears the name of Jimmy Boyle alongside McGrath's and is admittedly based in part on the Glasgow gangster's life.

In the play a character says that the Boyle figure, called Johnny Byrne, is the sort of person who gives Glasgow's notorious Gorbals a bad name. Since Boyle's imprisonment that sort of thing has been said about him, and there has been resentment that he seems to have become a hero of sorts, publishing an autobiography and exhibiting sculpture since being placed in the experimental Special Unit at Barlinnie Prison.

None of that surfaces in *The Hardman*. Only the training in theft and violence that slum life offered and the practice of betrayal and brutality that marked Boyle/Byrne's maturity comes through. Finally jailed for murder, the last long segment of the play shows Byrne still fighting. He attacks the deputy governor of his prison, wages war against a sadistic guard and is last seen naked, in a cramped cage at Barlinnie, smearing excrement over himself in a peculiar sort of transcendence.

That image apart, coming as it does as coarse realism amid stylized and effective rituals of violence, there is much to recommend in the play. It has humour, a theatrically valid and exciting use of percussion to suggest both violence and tenderness, some fine young actors and a remarkably even-handed picture of Byrne and the prison system. It is also singularly lacking in plot development or any form of tension, apart from that which Peter Kelly is able to bring to the role of Byrne.

The direction by Peter *Lichtenfels, with Ian Ireland* and McGrath, accepts that the progression from incident to incident and jailing to jailing is not dramatic and treats the text almost symphonically. Byrne as a youth is in gang-fights climactically sounded by drums and the rattle of corrugated iron, as an adult the drumming is on the bars of his cage while he tries to sleep. His final repetition of the word "no" is a mantra chanted to signify his continued resistance.

Something must have happened to Boyle in the Special Unit to make his help on this play, his autobiography and his sculpture possible. The play hints at it, but absorbing and entertaining as it is at best, too little is revealed.

■ Tomorrow at the Regent Theatre, Regent Street, Backstage Productions present *Sexual Perversity in Chicago* and *Duck Variations*, both by David Mamet, the young American playwright. *Sexual Perversity in Chicago* won the OBIE Best Play Award in 1976, and *together with Duck Variations* ran for a year off Broadway.

Ponnelle's original Turandot

For San Francisco Opera's new *Turandot*, Jean-Pierre Ponnelle has found a conception, and an inspired cast and chorus, that enabled him to deepen, enlarge, and electrify Puccini's perverse and peculiar tale. Yet for all his wild imaginings, M Ponnelle did not dominate the evening. Nor for all their fame and skill did Montserrat Caballé and Luciano Pavarotti, who led the cast, rule alone either. Nor were the composer's directions slavishly deferred to. Instead, a total new work was created by all concerned, by turns shocking, perplexing, and jarringly spectacular.

As usual in a successful Pon*nelle production, there are far* too many novelties to detail. (Some protested at the more garish innovations — dwarves, blood, visible tortures. But surely this decadent, dubious opera calls out for correspondent production? Rather than list them all, let me take a single scene, the third-act confrontation between Turandot and Liu, that comes to a climax in the latter's suicide.

The stage is dominated, here and throughout the opera, by a beautiful 25ft. statue of a bare-breasted female buddha. The *body is burnished gold*, the face polished porcelain. The eyes are awesome slits that open and close, glow with light, and finally weep bloody tears. The giant arms rise and fall in slow mechanical moves, the fingers, like Turandot's, are terrifying claws. On either side are banks of steps filled with a passionate but controlled Chinese chorus *in Maoist-blue* uniforms and flat coolie hats. Behind, a black wall. The "lap" of the statue becomes the balcony from which the frigid, sadistic princess watches the too-human spectacle below.

The composition is overwhelming: visually, orchestrally, musically. Every instant, every gesture, has been plan*ned as a part of the total* dramatic event. The Idol lifts an arm: Turandot comes out, red blood on her hands, supported by a dwarf. Mme Caballé gives voice to her imperious, Wagnerian questions and commands in that stunning if unlovable tone. Leona Mitchell, a magnificent Liu, wretched in rags, is tormented by Ping, Pang, and Pong. She explains her secret—"Principessa, l'amore!"—in liquid, lovely, plum-full voice; two sterling silver soprano voices *meet in air, underscored* by Puccini's violins. Liu stabs herself and falls; and suddenly the whole stageful of grotesque exotics seems designed to give timeless new meaning to her death.

Caballé and dwarf

As in any totally successful piece of theatre, the whole is what matters, not the parts. The parts here included the most brilliantly conceived and drilled interpretation of the three ministers I have ever seen, trapped between humanity and fantasy. The parts included a *provocative war between two* world-famous voices. Pavarotti sings with his familiar, earthy throbbing-Italianate passion and sweetness, clearly a Puccini hero from some other world than hers, alive with sensual energy. Having lost four stone, he also looks the part; Mme Caballe remains awesomely large. Until she is successfully challenged and stripped of her impenetrable gold robes, Mme Caballe's Turandot left *me* quite cold, colder than I thought necessary. Despite some breath-taking notes she was somewhat *less magnificent than her re*cordings or reputation. But at least this grand coldness allowed her final encounter with Calaf to take on devastating proportions, both erotic and musical.

The San Francisco daily newspaper critics had no kind words for the revival of Bellini's *I puritani*. First mounted here for Joan Sutherland in 1966, the handsome, serviceable sets and costumes were unwrapped again this year for Beverly Sills. Bellini did hope that his Elviras could cope with the high notes Miss Sills can only strain towards; and he wrote dramatic-tragic moments she could never convincingly *evoke*. But in between, *I Puritani* is filled with innumerable occasions for the silvery nightingale trills and runs, the joyous beaming outbursts of bel canto her fans come to hear and cheer.

The rest of the production was pure provincial Italian *stagione*, so old-fashioned it was almost amusing.

San Francisco also imported the sets and costumes of a lavish new *Aida* from New York, and then double-cast it and ran it nine times to help *pay off the freight*. I *missed* the first round (Maria Parazzini, Fiorenza Cossotto, James McCracken, Norman Mittelmann), but saw and enjoyed the second.

Our second Radames (Gianfranco Cecchele, in his San Francisco debut) started out in pinched voice much too small for this immense (3,200-seat) house—"Celeste Aida" received only the most perfunctory faint clapping of mittened hands. Signor Cecchele never *ventured to act* beyond the odd frown, but his voice eased and *opened up as the evening pro*gressed, and the final duet was winning indeed.

He was paired with the Hungarian soprano Eva Marton, also new to San Francisco, a voluptuous Aida ill-garbed in electric blue. Hers is a very interesting voice, potentially that of a splendid lead soprano. Her tone is melodious, beautiful, and full. Her acting stays, so far, this side of melodramatic excess.

After only three seasons and four roles, mezzo Tatiana *Troyanos has become a Cali*fornia darling. As it turned out, her Amneris was not as sympathetic a role as her Poppea (1975) or Adalgisa (1976). But there is still so much to be relished in that opulent, velvety voice with its compelling vibrato; in a lithe, mastered body and profile.

David Littlejohn

Clifford Curzon
Festival Hall

Joan Chissell

For his piano recital on Monday Sir Clifford Curzon chose a *programme he had already* played at the Aldeburgh Festival last June and probably on many other platforms too. Yet he still preferred to play from the printed page rather than trust his memory.

The nervous hypertension that easily gets between his vision of the music and his fingers was not completely con*quered on Monday* until Schubert's last sonata in B flat after the interval. This was a wonderful performance, to begin with for the ethereal quality of the sound. Sir Clifford's *delicately pellucid touch* has always been ideal for Schubert. In this visionary sonata it seemed even more perfect than usual, every note gleaming as if with a little halo.

Depth of feeling was also conveyed with a simplicity that was wholly Schubertian. For the first movement he found a flowing tempo, and wisely, I think, did not repeat the exposition. Many artists, even the greatest, make this opening molto moderato too much like a slow movement, so that the ensuing Andante cannot bring its rightful contrast. Sir Clifford's did, its poignancy all the more touching for not being underlined. Contrasts of a minor and major tonality were also intimately telling, as they were in the tingling Scherzo and unpredictably temperamental finale.

Because chosen as opener, Beethoven's D minor sonata *caught the worst of Sir Clif*ford's unease in wrong notes and a hectic kind of urgency. But the spread *pianissimo* chords in the opening movement were marvellously mysterious.

In a group of intermezzos and capriccios by Brahms Sir Clifford again seemed unduly highly *strung*. Speed militated against strength and breadth in one or two climaxes. But response to mood could not have been sharper, and all five brought exquisite things in passing.

Park Lane Music Players
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Thomas Walker

Monday evening's event at Queen Elizabeth Hall was only nominally a concert by the Park Lane Music Players. In reality it was a benefit for "*Self Aid* of Refugees", an organization whose good offices were, if I understand, mainly directed during and after the Second World War towards alleviating the plight of those forced to flee Hitler's Germany. Its present *raison d'être* did not emerge so clearly from the pages of its annual report.

Given the economics of today's concert life, I cannot imagine that Monday's balance was strongly in the black, despite the large and obviously dedicated audience. Presumably the main support comes from the vast series of businesses and industries whose good wishes fattened the souvenir programme.

*If the occasion was, inevit*ably, more a social and financial than a musical one, it none the less offered an attractive selection of works from baroque and classical repertory, including two of the less frequently played Haydn symphonies, 66 in B flat and 76 in E flat. *Rudolf Schwarz* led the orchestra in well tailored performances without a great deal of individuality.

Number 76 carries its own weight easily with the cool fire of its slow movement, a foretaste of the Haydn of Paris and London. The earlier work, however, stands or falls on its conductor's sense of humour, and of that there was little evidence. Indeed, from start to finish there was a joylessness about the playing, which is perhaps not surprising when you consider the agonizing memories that must crowd in on the gathering.

As the star attraction, the violinist Ida Haendel played Mozart's third concerto in G major with conviction and accuracy, if without warmth. I enjoyed much more her Hollywood-style rendering of Corelli's "La Folia" variations, which had the great merit of making the tune sound like the theme-song from *Exodus*.

Hongkong Festival

A Hongkong Festival company has been formed in association with the Forum *Theatre, Billingham, to present* three plays—*Rosmersholm, She Stoops to Conquer* and Samuel Beckett's *Happy Days*. The casts include Phyllis Calvert and Martin Jarvis. Clifford Williams, of the Royal Shakespeare Company, directs all three plays.

Ten concerts will be given by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Guest Column

Holding back the Marxists

Lord Gladwyn, President of the European Movement and a member of the European Parliament from 1973 to 1976, contributes *this week's guest column*

Moscow denounces the "Eurocommunists". Señor Carillo openly criticizes Moscow, as do, perhaps less vehemently, Monsieur Marchais and the Marquis Berlinguer. Does all this transform the Eurocommunists from totalitarians into democrats? After all, if they reject the concept of the dictatorship of the proletariat; accept the necessity of resigning if defeated in elections; and in essence repudiate the whole *philosophy of the Russian Bolsheviks* as exemplified in the works and writings of Lenin and, more recently, in the (never repudiated) "Brezhnev Doctrine", as they say they do, what *does* distinguish them from Western European socialists?

Not much, if we believe Mr Eric Heffer (*The Times*, November 7), who, one must suppose, reflects the views of the Tribune Group, though it seems that his colleague Mr Alex Kitson favours Moscow as against the Eurocommunists. Indeed Mr Heffer tells us that the policy of Carillo is virtually indistinguishable from the 1976 Labour manifesto. His suggestion, therefore, naturally is that, after suitable discussions, the Eurocommunists and the Socialist International should get together so that "at last Europe (can) democratically evolve as originally envisaged by Marx and Engels into a socialist society". The only thing that stands in the way of this happy development is apparently the unfortunate addiction of the Eurocommunists to what is known as "democratic centralism", or "cadre-style organization", in other words, a concentration of power in the hands of a small, determined and devoted elite.

But that is the whole point. Even granted that the type of socialist society envisaged by the Tribunites and the Eurocommunists is very similar, or even identical, the fact is that it is the latter who intend, in the event of any merger or association with anybody, to be the tail that will wag the dog. The chances of such an operation succeeding in Italy are considerable: in France they are not very great at the moment. And unless the European socialists accept the principle of "democratic centralism"—and is the Tribune Group opposed to this?—It seems unlikely that Mr Heffer's merger will emerge, at any rate for the time being.

For the real political dividing line is now between all those who genuinely want to have what is known as a "directed economy", "scientifically" planned and operated on what is believed to be Marxist (though they might equally well be fascist) lines, and those who still want to reform our existing free and pluralistic societies—rather absurdly described as "capitalist"—by democratically reforming the present industrial *system so as to encourage such* things as decentralization, regional development, individual liberty, and a rather fairer distribution of inherited wealth.

If the present recession persists and unemployment remains very high, or goes even higher, the success of the first tendency, which we might call "Eurotribunism", is certainly not to be discounted. The British, it is true, will not want, when it comes to the point, to be bossed about by planners, however "scientific", or be subjected to "social engineering" based on a now discredited ideology, however attenuated. But they may have to if, for instance, they break with Europe and, for whatever reason, prefer to retreat into their nationalistic shell. Once again, and this time even more successfully, we may see the Tribune Group tail wagging the Labour Party dog.

To avoid such a calamity it will surely be necessary for all progressive and reasonable non-Marxists in all the main parties to come together in an effort to instil in the public mind a vision of the kind of Britain and the kind of Europe that will be an acceptable alternative to the Marxist paradise. And where can this be found other than in European democratic institutions and notably in the creation of a vigorous directly elected European Assembly capable of both mobilizing European public opinion and of checking any tendency towards bureaucracy in the Community machine. If the non-Marxists among our politicians had any sense they would now be concerting their efforts to project such an image through the media and, by one means or another, to insist that the elections take place without any British imposed—and highly dangerous—delay.

What our schools need most is money

Schools in many areas are running desperately short of the basic tools of education. But in the Great Education Debate, nobody seems to have noticed.

The crisis is worst in secondary schools. Last year maintained secondary schools spent £5.76 a head on books on average—20 per cent less, in real terms, than they spent in 1971-72. Recently *The Times Educational Supplement* sent reporters to 13 local education authorities to investigate the provision of books in secondary schools.

They found that younger pupils in secondary schools are being starved of books so that exam students can be provided with essential texts. Materials for practical subjects are being cut to the minimum.

Money for teaching materials comes from capitation allowances—so much is allocated per pupil each year. The amount varies enormously in different authorities: in 13 authorities this year, capitation for 11-15-year-olds ranged from £10.12 a head to £18.80.

In many areas the sum has to cover toilet paper and cleaning materials, postage, telephone bills and minor repairs, as well as books and teaching materials. In some authorities schools have up to 40 per cent less to spend on teaching materials than they had five years ago.

Inevitably, GCE, O and A-level students take the *lion's* share of the resources going. They need textbooks for private study. Every year, syllabus changes require new set texts and equipment. A new A-level physics course will cost a Birmingham grammar school £1,000 next year.

Comprehensives that have been successfully building up examination courses and sixth forms have particular difficulties. One comprehensive in Barnsley has 130 pupils taking O-level geography this year. Last year there were 30. The students need a minimum £10 worth of textbooks each—not to mention maps, and field trips. Capitation for 11-16-year-olds in Barnsley is £15.91 a head.

Even in practical subjects, exams take priority. GCE craft O-levels demand work in hardwood. One square foot of hardwood, one inch thick, costs 72p. Many craft departments in comprehensives have to run for a year on £1 per head.

So, lower down the school, textbooks have to be shared between two or even three pupils in class. One set must do for several teachers, and several classes. In practical subjects, children are asked to do fiddly exercises with scavenged materials, or even with pencils and paper.

In many subjects, lessons for *younger* children can be entirely based on worksheets. Their quality is very variable—but producing even the nastiest worksheets takes up a great deal of teachers' time and energy.

Shared sets of books cannot be taken home, or given out on long loan. Homework has to come from worksheets, or dictated notes. So less homework gets done, and its quality deteriorates.

Good libraries can make up the deficiencies in teaching stocks. Schools in some authorities have excellent libraries, staffed by full-time qualified librarians and assistants. They are exceptional. In many places, the standard of school libraries is scandalously low.

Teacher-librarians are given as little as two periods a week to run libraries for schools with over 1,000 pupils. Their share of capitation can be less than 50p a head. There are school libraries with 3,000 books for 1,500 pupils. *In* many schools, libraries are used as classrooms for most of the day.

Some suburban schools are now raising five figure sums every year from parents. Increasingly the parents' contributions are going on basics, library and textbooks. But for schools in poor areas, it is a major effort for parents to raise £200 a year. So social gaps are widening.

The odd thing is that there has been so little protest. With spending cuts, and falling pupil numbers, teachers' first concern has been to preserve jobs. Many authorities have done deals with local teachers that held pupil-teacher ratios steady, at the expense of severe cuts in capitation.

If standards of educational provision are not to fall permanently in many areas, it is now urgent that politicians, teachers and the general public begin to take notice of resources. In 1976-77—the latest year figures are available—secondary pupil-teacher ratios were below 16 : 1 in 20 of the 104 education authorities. They were worse than 18 : 1 in only six.

But in many areas the deterioration in stocks of books and basic teaching materials is reaching crisis point. Teachers are having to produce materials on a scavenging, do-it-yourself, cut-price basis. In these circumstances, it is scarcely surprising that they fail to deliver the wide variety of high quality goods demanded in the Great Education Debate.

Virginia Makins

Anorexia nervosa: a disease of our times

Anorexia nervosa, a state of extreme self-maintained starvation in the presence of plenty of food, is emerging as a serious modern disease, most commonly among adolescent girls. The nature of disease in a society often reveals hidden aspects of its lifestyles and its struggles, and anorexia nervosa is no exception.

Self-imposed restriction of eating has an honourable history. In due proportion it reflects a proper sense of self-control and of the self. Taken to extreme, the ascetic has discovered and sometimes proclaimed its blunting effect on his other carnal needs and has sometimes seemed to achieve ecstasy through it. Now, anorexia nervosa is burgeoning in our own secular and materialistic society. It invites some initial questions. Why so common in females; why so much more common among the families of professional and managerial classes?

If a more general wish to lose weight is part of the background then it is evident that this is a female rather than a male preoccupation in our society. The majority of adolescent females wish to be less fat; clearly, not all of them are fat in an obese sense—it is the feminine fatness conferred by puberty which they are attempting to curb.

The full-blown anorectic has totally rejected this fatness, together with the biological and reproductive maturity that it heralds. To say that anorexia nervosa has arisen on this account is, apart from being teleological, an over-simplified view. It is substantial but it does not account for the condition in males; nor does it elaborate upon the intervening psychosocial variables — the maturational challenge to the person and to her family that has also characteristically underpinned the condition. It is perhaps fairer to say that dieting behaviour, for whatever reason can become excessively rewarded by the reversal of pubertal processes which it induces in those individuals or families otherwise unable to cope with the tasks of adolescence.

It is also a lack of other less primitive ways of coping or adapting to the problems of growing up, rather than just the adolescent emotional maturational hiccup itself, which is the hallmark of anorexia nervosa. The strains of adolescence for families classically include the need for parents to reconsider their own lifestyles and adjustments. Potentially providing them with an opportunity for new growth, the challenge can sometimes be too great.

For example, institutions such as parental personality or the marriage itself may be threatened, and a closing of the parental ranks and rejection of the still unconforming adolescent follows. Anorexia nervosa ideally resolves such a conflict in the first instance.

Then again, some adolescents begin tentatively to explore their new life, highly sensitive about their appearance and attempting to optimize it, only to find their parents' marriage crumbling in their wake. Its survival was dependent upon them being a dependent child. Many of us survive such quicksands—the incipient anorectic does not, and the total regression and reversion to childhood inherent in anorexia nervosa resolves this conflict.

Perhaps in the past there were other institutions and systems providing order and control, through which the adolescent could slowly graduate away from the family, for example through apprenticeship and the social rituals and courtship patterns which existed in traditional society.

With the breakdown of many of these and with the limits of what is socially permissible broadening rapidly, it takes a certain robustness of emergent personality and of family relationships to weather the storm, especially when, say, middle class parental values are at stake. The close-knit nature of working class families, their here and now interests, and their different level of expectations of adolescence, often with lifestyles in terms of work and marriage crystallizing out at an earlier age, is probably protective in this respect.

Since anorexia nervosa is, to some extent, adaptive and not seen as alien by the person afflicted with it, often it is not brought to the doctor's attention, or else this only happens after several years of increasing physical disability. Since spontaneous recovery can also occur, it is not possible to say what proportion of afflicted people eventually recover. However, within those populations of people with the condition who eventually become medically involved, approximately 40 per cent will be recovered five years later, even with the minimal treatment possible. This figure can probably be increased to 60 per cent with sophisticated treatment. However, a substantial number remain ill, struggling along at weights as low as 4½ to 5½ stones, and death occurs in about 5 per cent of this sad, isolated group.

Many of them move on from a low weight control pattern of dieting to one of (secret) overeating, vomiting and excessive purging—a complex behavioural and metabolic state arises which presents many a diagnostic puzzle to the doctor not party to the underlying psychological determinants. In order to prevent others from disrupting her delicate equilibrium the patient may deny concern about her weight and effectively conceal her continued manipulation of it with the same tenacity as an addict maintains his position. Meanwhile, her insistent preoccupations remain those concerned with maintenance of her low weight, and hence with dietetic matters.

The latter, of course, are also inevitably intrusive as a consequence of her starved state. She, even more than the majority of adolescent girls, will overestimate her body widths, insisting, though emaciated, that her body is normal in size or even large. Her starving state will sometimes also lead her into stealing and hoarding—behaviour often at variance with her previous nature.

Although the disorder is now common (about one in every 100 girls aged 16 to 18 in the independent sector of education in the south of England has been found to have it, and it may be even more common among a slightly older age group), it has probably also been more prevalent than was previously thought in earlier decades. Now better recognized, it assuredly remains, however, a disease predominantly of affluent societies. In this day and age, it is probably the commonest cause of emaciation in our young adult female population.

Treatment is extremely difficult. Any severely ill anorectic knows how to gain a substantial amount of weight, but her terror at doing so is overwhelming. If she is to achieve this and sustain it outside the natural course of events, then attention will need to be directed also at the underlying maturational problems already alluded to. A combination of reexposure to truly normal adult weight through a normal dietary intake together with relevant psychological help is probably optimal; an approach often involving the whole family.

Otherwise the anorectic is more likely merely to eat in order to gain sufficient weight to permit discharge from care —then she will resume her old ways. In-patient care requires a highly sophisticated blend of medical and nursing control, combined with a certain freedom to explore new aspects of experience within the self and the family.

Anorexia nervosa, a maladaptive though egosyntonic biologically based avoidance of, and part solution to, an existential problem, should be a challenge to present day society as well as to the families containing it. Meanwhile, the hard-pressed National Health Service is barely in a position to deal with the large numbers of us whose illnesses are no more and no less than our only resource.

Arthur Crisp

The author is Professor of Psychiatry at St George's Hospital Medical School, London.

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

White Paper sets out plans to control insider dealing and director loans

By Christopher Wilkins

Government plans to make insider dealing a criminal offence and to clamp down on company loans to directors were outlined yesterday in the form of a White Paper from the Department of Trade.

It seems unlikely, however, that legislation to enact the proposals will be introduced in the present parliamentary session, which in turn raises some doubt about whether the Government will be able to legislate *before the next General* Election.

The Queen's Speech earlier this month included a commitment to "amend company law", but the pressures on the *parliamentary timetable* mean that only a limited Bill will be introduced. This will implement the EEC's second directive on company definition and cover some registration issues.

The proposals in the White Paper are designed to put the duties of directors on to a statutory footing, and will, for the first time, give employees legal recognition in company *law. Directors will have to take* account of their interests as well as those of shareholders, and provision will have to be made for employees when part or all of a company is closed.

In response to a number of cases which have exposed loopholes in the present law prohibiting loans to company directors, the White Paper proposes to extend the present ban *to include directors' near relatives.*

In the case of banks, which are allowed to make loans to directors when it is the "ordinary course of business", *loans will have to be made on* "normal commercial terms", will be limited to £50,000 and will have to be revealed fully in the annual accounts.

Directors' contrasts come under scrutiny too. All service contracts lasting longer than five years will have to be approved by shareholders, and sales of assets between a company and a director or his family interests will require shareholder approval.

Minority shareholders will be able to protect their interests *better by obtaining the right to* petition the court if they think the company is being run in a way prejudicial to their interests.

The White Paper comes out in favour of audit committees, but has drawn back from making them compulsory. "Initially at least", the White Paper says, "it will be better for companies, investors and their representatives bodies to work out schemes which can benefit from a degre of flexibility which the law could not provide".

Much of the White Paper focuses on proposals to outlaw insider trading, in quoted securities, which is to become a criminal offence with penalties of up to two years in prison or an unlimited fine.

Prosecution will have to show that an insider "knew or had reasonable grounds to believe that the information was not generally known and was price sensitive and that he dealt nevertheless".

But it will be possible to make a defence that dealing is not intended to make a profit or avoid a loss by the use of inside information. It is felt this defence provides protection for innocent dealings by directors and employees.

The White Paper is not likely to prove controversial except in detail. The Tories promptly welcomed it, noting that it reproduced much of what had been proposed in their own 1973 *company law Bill which was* overtaken by the 1974 election.

Mr John Nott, Opposition spokesman on trade, said he welcomed the Government's putting into statutory form *what was already general* business practice.

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What makes an 'insider'

Insiders will be defined principally as directors, employees, substantial shareholders and persons with a professional or business relationship with the company. In addition the *definition will extend to* "anyone who receives information which he knows to be price-sensitive and not generally available and which he realizes has come directly or indirectly from an insider." This provision will not be restricted to those "*who are in some specified relationship* with the insider".

UK hopes for Europe airliner stake

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Britain, France, West Germany and Holland are moving fairly close to agreement on the development of a 150-seater European airliner project.

If the project goes ahead it will be based on a French design, the A200, and will be powered by two American/French engines.

This means that the competing British design, the BAC X11, which is largely based on proven BAC 111 airliner technology, will be dropped.

But in return for French insistence that their design must be used, the British are equally adamant that they should have overall control of the project, and it should be a hard-headed economic one, rather than one entered into for reasons of political pride.

The British Aaerospace view is that this country should have the leadership role of the project, should design and make the wings and the undercarriage, and do *the final assembly of parts made in all* four partner countries, plus flight testing.

This would amont to about 40 per cent of the project for Britain, 25 per cent for France (the low figure taking into consideration the fact that she will be producing the engines) and the remaining 35 per cent for the West Germans and the Dutch.

Development costs and tooling for production would amount to some £330m and would be split among the partners in the same ratio as the work.

The deal is to be discussed at prime ministerial level between Britain and France in December and has enormous implications for Britain's future industrial and political relations with Europe.

It is linked strongly with the possibility of Britain reentering, at government level, the European airbus consortium which she left in the late 1950s on the ground that airbus sales prospects were bleak.

British Aerospace, which makes the wings for the airbus as a private venture, is negotiating to go back as a full member *of the consortium with a view to working* on a new and smaller version, the 200-seater B10.

The price of the entry ticket for Britain would be similar to that for the A200. There would also be a small contribution *expected by the French and the Germans* towards the bill for additional production costs of the existing airbus models.

At the same time as negotiating with the Europeans, British Aerospace is talking to the American companies Boeing and McDonnell Douglas about joining them in new airliner projects. These talks are of a *serious nature, but they can also* be seen as a lever for placing pressure on the French and the Germans in the talks towards a European deal.

£150m Iranair deal will benefit Hawker

I a deal signed in London yesterday, Iranair will lease two European A300 airbuses and indicated that it will buy 10 more at a total cost of £150m.

First deliveries of the new aircraft will be made in 20 months. The first of the two leased aircraft is for delivery in *March.*

The orders represent long-term work for Hawker Siddeley factories within British Aerospace.

And ML Aviation, of Maidenhead, has been awarded a contract by the United *States Air Force-Navy Board which could* lead to the manufacture of weapon-carrying racks for a wide range of American military aircraft. ML Aviation already makes these for the RAF and the Royal Navy and for the air forces of 20 foreign countries.

Plenty of imported Coffee in Brazil

"The London market opened £20 down and trading is quiet," Senhor Jair Coser, president of Brazil's second largest coffee exporting company said with a smile. A few hundred yards from his office in the Palacio do Cafe, 2,000 tons of imported coffee was being discharged from the British ship Deseado.

Another 4,000 tons are due to arrive next week, bought overseas by Interbras, a state-controlled trading company in an unprecedented move on behalf of the Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC).

Yet a few hundred miles down the coast coffee is being loaded for export—if i nsmaller quantities than usual.

In November and December *Brazilian companies will export* 1,500,000 bags of coffee (of 60 kilos each), a third of the amount for the same period last year. Like other traders, Senhor Coser has coffee to export, but *his hands are tied* by Brazil's premium selling price of 3.20 dollars a pound, and a one month limit on arranging advance sales.

Neither is an attractive selling *point, and has embarrassed the* coffee exporters, financially and otherwise. Two large companies have already gone bankrupt, and another eight are known to be in difficulties.

"My company (*Unicafe*) stopped exporting altogether for six months, and has only just restarted", Senhor Coser explained. "It is almost impossible to sell coffee at the Brazilian price." He favours an export price close to the current market rate of about $2 a pound. "That is a good price for the producer and not too expensive for the consumer."

The IBC's imported coffee—expected to total about 25,000 tons by January—will be stopped in Vitoria until next summer, when it wil be sent to Brazilian plants for roasting, unless frost damages the July crop. In that eventuality, it could be reexported.

It is the last frost, in 1975, that is still playing havoc with the machinations of Brazil's coffee trade, and is the apparent motive for the IBC replenishing its reserve stocks, at present about 1.5 million sacks.

"The import of coffee was no necessary", Senhor Coser said. "Although we do not have a surplus at present, we have enough for consumption and export." The IBC's action, a strange spectacle to Brazilian traders, is being interpreted as a largely speculative measure.

They believe, however, that the low world price and iminent appearance on the market of coffee from other producing countries may yet force the IBC's hand. "At the moment we are alone in the market, but from January the competition will be very strong," Senhor Coser said.

He predicts that the minimum price of Brazilian coffee wil shortly be lowered and the beleaguered exporters will be allowed to arrange sales four months in advance instead of one.

Peter Godfrey
in Vitoria, Brazil

Solicitors expect higher indemnity premiums as inflation hits claims

A world "explosion" in users' claims against the professions together with an tendency to higher settlements means that British solicitors are likely to have to pay substantially higher premiums for indemnity insurance.

In an article published in its *Guardian Gazette* today the Law Society gives a warning that while negotiations with insurance underwriters are still taking place, solicitors' premiums are "quite inevitably" going to have to rise from next September.

Figures covering the first full year of the society's master policy scheme show a discrepancy *between income from* premiums and the estimated total which claims might cost. At £7.9m, the reserve sum which it is estimated might be the maximum needed to cover claims notified, is more than £1 higher than the income received from premiums.

The total of 646 claims against solicitors were notified during the year ending last August.

Obligatory for all solicitors *since September last year, the* master policy scheme covers claims against loss of documents or valuables, defamation and breach of confidence as well as professional negligence.

The premiums now cost sole practitioners £490 a year and give cover up to £50,000 per claim while partners' pay £392 annually for cover up to £30,000.

The Law Society makes the point that during the existence of the policy inflation has advanced by about 36 per cent while premiums have increased by only 26 per cent. However, it is also concerned about the future effects of what it *describes as a "world-wide 'epidemic'* of professional indemnity claims".

In the United States claims against lawyers increased by 40 per cent between 1971 and 1975, *according to a recent in*demnity insurance company survey. During the same period the average claim cost almost doubled to $12,000 (about £6,630) by 1975 and the pool of *insurers who are prepared to* take on professional indemnity insurance had shrunk to possibly three or four companies.

The society's concern is that factors such as changes in *public attitudes to consumer* protection and more sympathetic treatment by the courts will lead to an equivalent or greater increase in claims in Britain.

Building societies in £1,200m link

By Margaret Stone

Merger proposals between the Anglia Building Society, with assets of nearly £700m, and the Hastings and Thanet Building Society, with assets over £500m, announced yesterday will create a new society to be called the Anglia, Hasting and Thanet—the seventh biggest in the country.

*Talks have been going on be*tween the two for several years, but the growing gap between the giant national societies with assets in excess of £1,000m and *the rest gave final impetus* to the merger debate Members will be asked to give their approval in April.

Mr John Porter, chairman of *the Hastings and Thanet*, who will become chairman of the enlarged society, said yesterday there were five reasons for for the merger.

These were the elimination of direct competition with branch offices, preferential reserve ratio of larger societies, geneal economies of scale, a greater national spread, and the ability to compete with larger societies.

The new society will have more than 200 branches (only 18 overlap) and although administrative offices will ultimately be centred on Anglia's Northampton headquarters, the Hastings' Bexhill head office will be maintained for the time being. There are to be no redundancies for at least five years.

Mr Porter said the two societies shared the same philosophy to term shares and differential mortgage interest rates. The Anglia has 600,000 investors and 100,000 borrowers while the Hastings has some 300,000 investors and 75,000 borrowers.

Mr Peter Wilkinson, general manager of the Anglia, and Mr Eric Argent, general manager of the Hastings and Thanet, are to be joint chief executives.

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ICC adopts tough new rules for fighting bribery and corruption in industry

From Malcolm Brown
Paris, Nov 29

Business leaders from 54 countries today approved a tough new set of rules to fight *bribery and corruption in business* and public life.

The governing council of the International Chamber of Commerce voted overwhelmingly to adopt the recommendations of a high-level commission on extortion and bribery chaired by Lord Shawcross, the former British Attorney General.

These include: *strong recommendations to governments to* tighten up on the scope for corruption in their own countries and to introduce anti-bribery legislation where it did *not already exist; a set of voluntary* rules of ethical practice for businesses which ban extortion and bribery and outlaw kickbacks; and the setting up of an international panel to *police this code.*

But the council, while accepting in principle the proposal of an international policing panel, has remitted to a working party the whole question of the composition and detailed powers of the panel. The issue will be considered again by the council next summer.

The decision not to accept at this point the detailed Shawcross proposals on the powers and competence of the panel is bound to be interpreted as the result of pressure from the more voluble critics of the com*mission's report*, particularly France, Belgium and West Germany.

But it is by no means clear that this body of opinion will prevail. It is understood that while concern was expressed at the legal minefield which the setting up of such a panel would entail—questions of libel and slander, for example, might arise where a company was denounced to the panel as having engaged in corrupt practices—there was a strong feeling in certain sections of the ICC council that some of the Shawcross proposals on the panel should in fact be strengthened.

One crucial issue which the working party may examine is whether the panel should be able to *investigate alleged corruption* without the consent of the accused party.

The original draft of the report on the commission—whose other members include M Jean Rey, president of the European Economic Commission from 1967 to 1970 and Shaikh Yamani, Saudi Arabia's petroleum minister—had been *considerably water down* after criticism from the dissenting countries, some of whom are believed to have abstained today.

A key revision in the second *draft greatly reduced* the powers of the policing panel to investigate alleged corruption. It now seems possible that these powers could be restored to the panel if a means can be found *which does not involve too* many legal dangers.

The ICC's proposals will now be circulated to the governments and business communities of the 54 member nations.

Among the measures which governments will be expected to take are the compilation of reports on the financial interests and total wealth of officials and their immediate families. The *chamber also* wants governments to have access to company information about agents dealing with public bodies or officials.

Lord Shawcross said in London last night: "I am glad to know that the code itself has been adopted, but I am sorry that there is going to be this further delay before the machinery for enforcing the code becomes operative. It is important that the business community should make it clear that it is in earnest in putting down corruption."

Midland Bank reduces spread in rates tussle

By Ronald Pullen
Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank yesterday announced *that it was increasing* its base rate from 6 to only 6¼ per cent, adding to the divergence of views between the clearing banks on the pace of the *upturn in interest* rates.

This is half the increase National Westminster introduced on Monday, in response to last week's sudden rise in the minimum lending rate, and a quarter point below the Lloyds increase.

With Barclays still waiting to see where short-term money market rates settle, this means that all the big four clearers are working on different base rates, ranging between 6 and 7½ per cent.

Unlike NatWest and Lloyds, however, which took the opportunity of their base rate changes to widen the margin over their deposit rates to 3½ per cent, Midland is accepting a reduction in its spread from 3 to 2¾ per cent by putting up its rates on seven-day branch deposits by a full point to 4 per cent.

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China's shopping list: Mr Li chaing (right), China's foreign trade minister, who is in Britain to explore possibilities of increased trade, yesterday presented a "possibles" shopping list to Mr Edmund Dell (left), Secretary of State for Trade, covering a wide range of technologies, Derek Harris writes. He singled out coal mining equipment as an item the Chinese would definitely want to order in substantial quantity. Later the Chinese delegation went by helicopter to Dunsfold, Surrey, for a demonstration by British Aerospace of the Harrier military jump jet aircraft. The question of China's buying the aircraft, which might raise difficulties, particularly with the United States, could come up in talks today with the Prime Minister. Mr Li told Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, that Peking was still considering whether to buy three Concordes.

Dr Burns gloomy over jobless outlook

Washington, Nov 29.—Dr Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said he doubted whether the unemployment rate would drop to an "acceptable level over the next few years".

He told a meeting of the American Council of Life Insurance in New York that "the reason for scepticism was that a formidable array of structural factors was now impeding the smooth functioning of our labour markets—much more so than was the case 10 or 20 years ago".

Dr Burns said that the most prominent of the structural factors was the recent upsurge in the growth of labour force—a phenomenon dominated by sharply increasing participation of adult women.

The Fed chairman also repeated his call for a business tax cut, saying the need has become "especially acute". It would be necessary to offset impending increases in social security and energy taxes and "to neutralize the massive overpayment of income taxes that stems from applying standard accounting rules to our inflation-ridden economy".

Dr Burns emphasized the need *for* increased business investment and added "I believe that President Carter fully appreciates the importance of substantially lessening the psychological and financial obstacles to business investment".

He said he expects "that economic policy generally—and both tax and energy policies specifically—will soon take on a more constructive character.

"Over the next several months *I anticipate that decisions* in Washington will at last reduce uncertainty,

Dr Burns said he would seriously consider remaining a member of the Federal Reserve board *if he was not reappointed* to the chairmanship by President Carter.

Japan's promise helps to revive ailing dollar

There was a revival in the dollar's fortunes yesterday as the markets reacted after the lows reached on Monday in the wake of America's record trade deficit.

The feeling that the dollar will stabilize for a time at least is growing. Japan's promises to expand the economy and its apparent determination to halt the yen's rise at or below 240 to the dollar are a major influence.

The yen fell back against the dollar to close at 243.4 yen, down 3.15 yen from Monday. The dollar climbed to *DM2.222* and 2.155 Swiss francs.

Sterling closed down 42 points at $1.8148 with an unchanged effective exchange rate of 63.3.

Gold Fields issue 87pc subscribed

Consolidated Gold Fields' latest £40m rights issue was 87 per cent subscribed. The remaining shares were placed at a premium of 2p a share.

The issue—the fourth in 10 years—was pitched at two-for-nine at 155p a share. On its announcement Gold Fields' shares fell 20p to 177p and closed yesterday at 165p. The company is to use the proceeds to diversify from its heavy reliance on South Africa

Courtaulds seeks £20m

Courtaulds is to join the rapidly growing list of borrowers in the Eurosterling market. The company is to raise £20m by way of an issue of 12-year bonds, the proceeds to go mainly towards refinancing existing borrowings.

The indicated coupon is 9¾ per cent and the issue is being led by Hill Samuel.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 199.17 +3.44
The FT index: 474.1 +9.6

Rises

Ass Dairies	18p to 258p	Sandeman G	3p to 35p
A Bell	*14p to 368p*	*Sidlaw*	*7p to 104p*
BP	18p to 918p	Simpson S	10p to 82p
Brown J	16p to 253p	Smallshaw R	2p to 15p
Daily Mail Tst	10p to 318p	Staflex	1p to 14p
EMI	5p to 210p	Tecalemit	7½p to 105p
GEC	6p to 243p	Thorn Electric	12p to 382p
Hawthorn L	6p to 74p	Unilever	14p to 528p
Mang Bronze	*4p to 51p*	*Vickers*	*4p to 59p*
Oil Exploration	12p to 302p	York Trailer	3p to 177p

Falls

Downing GH	10p to 208p	Ransomes Simms	3p to 125p
Lep Group	*3p to 240p*	*Sutcliffe S'man*	*2p to 35p*
Middle Wits	5p to 165p	UC Invest	2p to 198p
Monk A	3p to 66p	Venterspost	3p to 232p

Sterling lost 42 points to $1.8148. The effective exchange rate index was at 63.3.

Gold lost $1.75 an ounce to $159.875.

SDR-$ was 1.187332 on Monday, while SDR-£ was 0.652953.

Commodities: Reuter's index was at 1491.5 (previous 1497.5).

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Equities went ahead.

Gilt-edged securities lost early gains.

Dollar premium 98 per cent (effective rate 37.83 per cent).

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.65	1.60
Austria Sch	30.50	28.50
Belgium Fr	66.00	63.00
Canada $	2.06	2.01
Denmark Kr	11.46	11.06
Finland Mkk	7.85	7.60
France Fr	9.07	8.75
Germany Dm	4.21	3.99
Greece Dr	77.50	73.00
Hongkong $	8.75	8.30
Italy Lr	1625.00	1570.00
Japan Yn	460.00	435.00
Netherlands Gld	4.54	4.32
Norway Kr	10.11	9.75
Portugal Esc	78.50	74.50
S Africa Rd	1.86	1.74
Spain Pes	156.50	150.50
Sweden Kr	9.00	8.65
Switzerland Fr	4.09	3.87
US $	1.86	1.81
Yugoslavia Dnr	38.75	36.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

On other pages

National Institute says world economic growth to be significantly lower than predicted

4 pc output rise of developed nations forecast

By Our Economic Staff

World economic growth this year and next is likely to be significantly lower than previously expected by both the National Institute for Economic and Social Research and governments, according to the Institute's latest forecast.

Out put in the major industrialized countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is forecast to rise by only 4 per cent this year and next.

World trade growth is expected to grow by 3 per cent to 4 per cent in volume terms this year, and by 6 per cent next year. This is higher than the most recent forecast by the OECD secretariat (of a 4 per cent rise next year), but below the United Kingdom Government's forecast of 8 per cent.

A short-lived bout of food price inflation at the beginning of this year misled governments into thinking that a renewal of inflation was a bigger danger than a stalling of recovery.

Industry has been much slower to invest than expected, and as a result unemployment has fallen less slowly than originally forecast in the United States, and has risen in Canada and western Europe.

The Institute is more cheerful about inflation. There has been a marked slowdown in the underlying rate, with a levelling out—and in some a fall—in wholesale prices over the late spring and summer of this year. As yet consumer price rises have not slowed down so much.

The OECD area as a dhole is expected to have an average rate of consumer price inflation of less than 9 per cent this year, falling to 7½ 7½ per per cent in 1978.

Cheaper commodities on world markets have helped the inflation outlook, with a fall of more than 8 per cent in the price index of primary products in the third quarter of this year.

However, the associated drop in export earnings of the less-developed countries has weakened the prospects for world trade.

Institute forecasts of the balance of payments differ quite significantly from the OECD forecasts in some cases. For 1978 the United States deficit is lower, Japan's is higher, and Italy's much higher, than other forecasts.

Economic growth rates are forecast to diverge quite substantially between countries. A satisfactory performance for America and Japan contrasts with an expected growth rate in western Europe of less than 2.5 per cent in 1977 and less than 3.5 in 1978.

Unemployment rates have been adjusted for differences in their calculation. A comparison of the adjusted rates shows Canada, Britain and the United States have the highest percentage of the work force in the dole queue—8.2, 6.7 and 6.8 per cent respectively in the third quarter of this year.

SUMMARY OF THE INSTITUTE FORECAST FOR UK

	Real GDP (per cent change, year/year)	Real personal disposable income (per cent change, year/year)	Unemployment (fourth quarter, million)	Money supply (per cent change, end-fiscal years)	Consumer prices (per cent change, year/year)	Current account balance (year, £ billion)	Public sector borrowing requirement (fiscal-year, £ billion)
1976	2.1	−0.4	1.3	9.8	15.4	−1.4	8.8
1977	0.2	−1.1	1.4	13.0	13.9	0.5	7.2
1978	3.4	5.1	1.5	13.0	8.4	2.1	8.6

FORECASTS FOR OECD COUNTRIES' INFLATION, GROWTH AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Per cent change year on year	US	Canada	Japan	France	West Germany	Italy	UK	Total OECD
Consumer prices								
1977/76	6.5	8.0	8.5	9.5	4.0	19.5	16.0	8.6
1978/77	6.5	8.5	6.0	8.0	4.0	13.0	9.0	7.5
GDP								
1977/76	5.0	1.7	6.0	2.5	3.0	2.0	0.2	3.8
1978/77	4.3	4.0	6.0	3.5	3.5	2.0	3.4	4.0
$000m Current Account balance								
1977	−15.9	−5.2	+11.6	+1.4	+2.6	+2.5	+0.9	−27.3
1978	−16.5	−5.0	+17.1	+5.0	−0.1	+8.4	+3.9	−7.1

N Sea peak likely in 1984

North Sea oil will leave Britain slightly better off than it was before the oil price rise and considerably better off than it is now, according to an article by Mrs S. A. B. Page a member of the National Institute states.

She suggests that by 1985 the cumulative effect of revenue from the North Sea from oil and gas will be to make the country overall $15,539m (about £8,333m) better off than it was at the beginning of the 1970s.

The study assumes that the net benefit of the North Sea and the oil price increase of 1973 can be measured by deducting the extra cost which Britain has had to pay for its oil from the total net revenue gained from North Sea operations.

This calculation, assumes oil prices do not rise as fast as the price of manufactures until 1980, when it starts to rise slightly. The study also assumes in its central forecast that exchange rate rises to $2.25 to the pound by 1982 and then stays there.

The peak benefit on these assumptions comes in 1984, with a gain to the balance of payments of $8006m net, which declines to $5663m in 1985 because of increased remittances abroad.

The contribution of oil and gas to gross domestic product is estimated at 4 per cent in 1977, 6½ per cent in 1980 and 7½ per cent in 1985 when measured at 1975 prices.

That half of the contribution which oil will make to the economy is already apparent leads the author to conclude that many of the key decisions on how to use the funds gained have already been taken without anyone being aware of the fact.

The largest increase in the value of output are expected to occur in 1977 and 1970. Total output at current prices is assumed to be worth £5,000m now, £10,000m in 1980 and £14,000m in 1985. Production costs at the peak are assumed to be £1.70 a barrel, which is on the high side of most estimates.

Government receipts are expected to be £1,282m this year (though the money will be paid in arrears £2,227m next year and rise to around £5,000m by the middle eighties.

Company profits are expected to go up to around £1,500m by the mid-eighties, though this gain is concentrated almost entirely in the oil sector.

Pay favours public sector

During the 1970s the relative pay of public sector blue collar workers improved by more than 10 per cent compared to those in the private setcor

But there has been a recent reversal in the trend favouring the private sector. In the year to April 1977 there was a relative shift of 2½ per cent to the private sector.

These findings are presented in an article by Mr Andrew Dean which updates previous work on pay relativities

Whereas private sector workers were generally betted paid than public sector in the 1950s and 1960s they have now been overtaken.

The evidence from both the New Earnings Survey and a special survey into manual pay by the Department of Employment follows the same pattern.

Phases one and two of the government's pay policy seem to have hit the public sector slightly harder

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wanted—housing for a 24-hour community in the Square Mile

From Mr C. D. Woodward

Sir, As one who lives in the City, serves on its Court of Common Council and chairs its amenity society, I beg to disagree with two of the views put forward in the article (November 23) on Barbican and City housing.

First, it is just not true that there is almost no room left for housing in the Square Mile. There are derelict sites, and run-down buildings which could be refurbished for residential use in the following areas: Smithfield—St Bartholomews (in particular in and around Little Britain; Bartholomew Lane and Cloth Fair); Liverpool Street Station; Cutler Street; Carter Lane; Garlick Hill; Lovat Lane; Bow Lane.

Second, there is the argument that it is too expensive to build housing in the City. My answer to that is if we do *not* build more housing, the City's main function as a financial centre is going to suffer because it will become increasingly less attractive as a place in which to work.

This is because the City's day-time population (now shrunk to 350,000) cannot itself sustain the services—notably shops and restaurants — which the working population requires. Once upon a time when rents and rates were low, City shopkeepers could flourish on the lunch-time trade. Today they cannot and that is why a great many have had to shut up shop and why there are so many empty shops in the City.

The shops and other services need business that spreads across the whole day—that is why we must have more residents (and probably more tourists) to sustain the services which are vital to the successful continuation of the City's economic activity. Housing, shopping, tourism and economic activity are all interdependent in the City.

This is the fundamental issue which the new City development plan needs to accept and encourage if it is successfully to chart the City's future in the coming years.

C. DOUGLAS WOODWARD,
Chairman, City Heritage Society,
404 Gilbert House,
Barbican EC2.

From Mr M. Nightingale

Sir, A strong case can be made for the retention of an anomalous form of local government for the City of London based on the business vote, but there is a need for substantial reform.

As Christopher Warman points out in his article in "The Changing City" (November 23) only 8,000 of the 500,000 people who work in the City are entitled to vote.

My company has been trading with Java since 1812 but when, in 1910, it incorporated and obtained a public quotation, the company and its directors lost any say in the government of the City. The great majority of businesses by the very act of incorporation have been similarly disenfranchized.

Most of us who work in the City would have to admit that we do not know in which ward or ecclesiastical parish our office is situated or the names of the aldermen, councillors or clergymen who are responsible for our welfare.

I suggest that the City Corporation should itself take the initiative by promoting legislation to ensure that everyone who has worked in the City for a qualifying period, apprenticeship in the modern sense, is encouraged and entitled to be admitted Freeman and that every Freeman has a vote in the government of the City. By this means all those working in the City will be made to feel a continuing and integral part of the ancient tradition that has made the City of London what it is.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NIGHTINGALE,
Chairman,
The Anglo-Indonesian Corporation,
37 Queen Street,
London EC4R 1BY.

Incentives from taxing derelict land

From Mr John Gorst

Sir, On what does Professor Michael Chisholm (November 24) base his assumption that the taxation of derelict land would provide a substantial incentive to local authorities and nationalized industries to bring it into use?

In the first place there is frequently a reason for land to fall derelict such as planning blight, location, or the cost of development. Secondly, I fail to see why development *per se* is likely to create a demand for the end product and thirdly which particular aspect of their record to date persuades him that they are competent to undertake a programme of urban development on such a scale, even if the funds were available.

It may interest Professor Chisholm to know that rates are now levied on empty buildings. Since we may assume that only an insane corporation will still voluntarily allow a building to remain empty, perhaps he can explain why up and down the country so many offices and factories are still unlet, despite the levying of rates and the substantially increased costs now facing their landlords as a result.

Far better to landscape derelict land and zone it open space to relieve rather than add to the already overwhelming congestion of so many cities.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GORST,
85 Rectory Grove,
London SW4.

From Mr H. M. Wilks

Sir, I would support what Professor Michael Chisholm wrote in your issue of November 24. The matter could, however, be taken a little further.

I was responsible for the only two pilot schemes on site value rating, which have been carried out on the ground since the last war. Both of them showed that a site value basis would not only be perfectly practicable in the United Kingdom but could be done more expeditiously and with fewer qualified staff than the present rating system.

What is perhaps most important, however, is that it immediately shows up those areas of land which are undeveloped, and those under-developed: further, it clearly indicates those which are ready for redevelopment. Also, as Professor Chisholm points out, by levying the appropriate tax on undeveloped and under-developed land, there is a financial incentive to use that land to the full.

In other words, the use of site value rating not only incidentally compiles a Domesday Book of all land in the United Kingdom, in support of Hugh Rossi's call, but it also is of use in assisting proper land use and thus of importance to the economist and, in broadest terms, to the conservationist.

Yours sincerely,
HECTOR M. WILKS,
BSc, FRICS (Dip.Rating),
FRVA, FIArb,
9 Harley Street,
London, W1N 2AL.

VAT burden of High Court debtors

From the Under Sheriff of Greater London

Sir, By a chilly side wind that will blow from Brussels after January 1, 1978 the lot of High Court debtors will be even more unfortunate than it is at present.

A change in the law brought in by s.14 Finance Act 1977 to comply with the EEC sixth Directive on VAT has had the effect of making VAT payable on the fees for enforcing judgments.

The difference between High Court judgments being enforced through high sheriffs, "office holders", and those of county courts through registrars, "employees", brings the added nonsense that VAT is payable on the "services" supplied to debtors by the High Court, but not on those through the county court.

Parliament still has time to prevent this unfair and unnecessary hardship.

ALASTAIR BLACK,
Under Sheriff,
The Office of the Sheriff of Greater London,
Arundel House,
13-15 Arundel Street,
London, WC2.

US banker attacks unions in UK

From Frank Vogl
Chicago, Nov 29

Top American bankers and economists called today for a major tax cut next year to stimulate business capital investments. They forecast increasing capital flows to the United States from Europe and increased prospects of a sustained long-term American expansion.

Mr George Ball, the former Under Secretary of State and now one of the leading investment bankers on Wall Street, predicted that there were increasing chances of "substantial flows of capital to the United States" because of mounting business uncertainties in Britain, France, West Germany and Italy.

Mr Ball, the senior managing director of Lehman Brothers, told a conference here that doing business and planning investments in Britain was "very difficult" with businessmen facing increasing industrial disputes, extreme tax rates and "a very rebellious trade union group that by and large can not control their own troops".

Br Ball suggested that British shop stewards were a law unto themselves and extremely militant.

Great business uncertainties also existed in France with the danger of communist gains in the forthcoming elections. Uncertainties weer also serious in Italy, because of the powerful political role of the Communist Party there.

In Germany businessmen were anxious about increased worker "co-determination" and actions of the extreme left wing.

Mr Roger Anderson, chairman of the Continental Bank, which is sponsoring this conference, said that the business problems in Europe were far graver than those in the United States.

Mr Paul McCracken, the former chairman of the White House Council of Economist Advisers, called with Mr Anderson for tax cuts next year. This was vital if the economy was to enjoy sustained economic recovery. The tax cuts should total at least $20,000m (about £11,050m) "with at least one third going to business".

Several of the speakers at this capital formation conference, including Mr William Simon, the former Secretary of the Treasury, noted that they had become more optimistic about the prospects of a realistic tax cut and of prudent economic policies

Mr Ball noted that policies to strengthen the private sector and reduce government intervention in business were essential otherwise there was a danger that government's role in managing the economy would reach the point where rigidities were so great, as was the case in Britain, where socialism was dominant.

Japanese agree to standstill on steel exports to Community

Brussels, Nov 29.—Japan has agreed to limit its steel exports in 1978 to the EEC to about the same levels as this year, informed sources said today.

Under informal arrangements for 1977 Japan has kept its exports of all steels to the Community to between 1.4 and 1.5 million tonnes with the six major Japanese companies accounting for 1.22 million tonnes of the total (Reuter reports).

This understanding will be prolonged for another year after talks between the European Coal and Steel Community and a Japanese trade delegation which ended here today, the sources said.

Both sides also discussed the minimum reference price due to be set soon by the United States for its steel imports.

A Japanese mission will visit Washington next week to explain the costing system of Japanese steel products.

The two sides agreed that Japan and the EEC would cooperate with the United States in setting the reference price which is likely to be based on the costs of Japanese steel production, including transport and insurance.

Commission officials said contracts at lower level continued in upreparation of high-level EEC-Japanese consultations held in Tokyo in the spring, and in Brussels in late autumn (AP-Dow Jones reports). The high-level consultations are to open in Brussels tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Community and Japanese experts began two-day discussions on balance of payments and trade problems.

Commission officials said that nothing spectacular should be expectd from the discussions of the financial experts who would report to the consultation which starts tomorrow.

The Community's major problem with Japan is a heavy trade deficit, expected at $5,000h (about £2,762m) this year, up from $4,200m in 1976.

The EEC maintains that its proportion of the cost of imports from Japan covered by exports to that country, will drop to near 39 per cent this year from 43 per cent in 1976.

But the Japanese are arguing that the balance of invisible transactions should be considered as well, pointing to $2,000m balance in favour of the Community in 1975 as an example.

Gatt told of plan for 40 pc cut in tariffs over 8 years

From Alan McGregor
Geneva, Nov 29

Japan is prodposing a 40 per cent industrial tariff cut in the multilateral Tokyo Round trade negotiations, Mr Masao Sawaki the Japanese delegate today told the annual conference of member countries of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

He said his government had adopted as a working hypothesis a formula for a 40 per cent weighted average reduction in tariffs, with harmonization to be effected over 8 years after, the successful conclusion of the negotiations, expected next year.

A 40 per cent cut has already emerged in the negotiations as the most likely compromise acceptable to the United States (which originally sought 60 per cent) and the European Community which wanted no more than 34 per cent), and also to Japan and to Switzerland, which put forward separate proposals last year with the emphasis on cutting high rates.

With January 15 the deadline for tariff submissions, negotiators expect to have the first blueprint indicating probable Tokyo Round results on the table shortly afterwards.

The Japanese delegate also reaffirmed his governments' intention of reducing tariffs on a number of items without waiting for the conclusion of the round.

"It is our hope this would contribute to promote an early conclusion of the negotiations, so as to curb the worldwide rise in protectionism and to increase imports," he said.

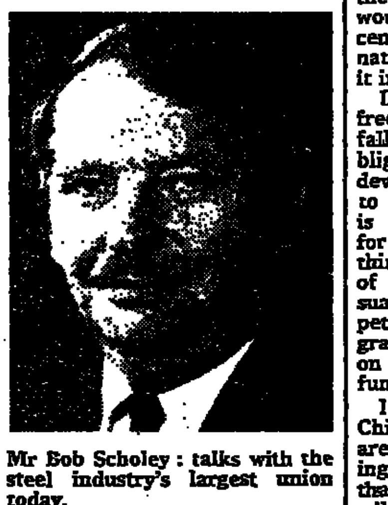
Tokyo confirms increase in trade surplus

Tokyo, Nov 29.—Japan's revised visible trade surplus rose to $1,860m in October from $1,690m in September and $1,140m in October last year, the finance ministry said. The figure was unchanged from the preliminary surplus announced on November 17.

The ministry said free on board exports rose 15 per cent compared with October, 1976 to $6,940m, while FOB imports rose 4 per cent to $5,070m.

The year-on-year rates of rise compare with 12 per cent and 3 per cent respectively for exports and imports in September.

In yen terms, the revised October visible trade surplus rose to 476.100m yen from 452,300m yen in September and 331,900m yen in September last year.



Mr Bob Scholey: talks with the steel industry's largest union today.

BSC talks with unions reopen today

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Discussions between steel union leaders and the British Steel Corporation over ways to reduce the industry's crippling financial losses reopens today.

The full executive of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the industry's largest union, is holding a "return bout" of the talks on economy measures that took place two weeks ago with Mr Bob Scholey, chief executive of BSC, at the corporation's London head quarters.

Details, rather than generalizations, about the cutbacks may emerge at these talks, which follow an hour-long meeting yesterday between Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry and the TUC steel industry committee when ministers underlined government anxiety over the industry's financial slide.

The Department of Industry said in a statement last night that Mr Varley had emphasized the Government's determination to se the long-term viability of the industry secured. Steps to effect a commercial recovery had been discussed.

Leaders on the TUC steel committee explained their concern about the time being allowed to complete consultations with their own members, and stressed the need to avoid "action that was socially damaging, left the industry unable to respond to an upturn in demand and allowed it to lose competitiveness through lack of essential investment."

Much now depends on today's exchanges between the ISTC and Mr Scholey. The confederation has the biggest influence within the TUC steel committee, holding six of the 17 voting seats and usually sets the policy pattern.

So far, BSC has only said that it wants a profitable steel industry, with the unions agreeing a common programme of job reductions and the shifting of the shrinking order book from older, high cost plants to low-cost plant.

Revised Iran deal for Millbank

By Maurice Corina

Work is being resumed by Millbank Technical Services, the recently deconsolidated subsidiary of Crown Agents, on developing and building the Isfahan military and industrial centre in Iran.

A revised contract, which apparently provides for reviews in stages, envisages a less ambitious package than when a protocol was signed with Millbank Technical Services Ordnance in 1974, under which the Crown Agents linked up with building contractors J. Laing and George Wimpey.

The Isfahan deal was halted last December whe nthe Iranian Military Industries Organisation terminated its relationship with Millbank Technical, claiming that the costs of the project had risen from an estimated £530m to £773m.

At December 31, 1976, the Iranians had paid over £53m, even though negotiations of the technical contract, including financing and fees, had not been agreed. Construction work was placed on a care and maintenance basis while the situation was reviewed by all parties.

The importance of the smaller scale project means that Millbank Technical Services liabilities will be correspondingly reduced. Withdrawal from the Isfahan project could have prompted losses to Mitis of over £475,000 and a host of related problems.

Renegotiation has taken place under the general supervision of the Ministry of Defence. In association with the Ministry of Overseas Development, it has taken over control of MTS, which has £57.9m deposited at call with the Crown Agents.

The Crown Agents have written off a £1m shareholding in MTS as well as £4.2m of accumulated profits under the transfer of control, which relieves the Agents of any contingent liabilities which may arise.

MTS now has an order book worth £1,600m for defence and other equipment and services and is trading profitably.

One of the uncertainties concerned the Isfohan contract, for which provisions had been made. Clearly, renegotiation of this deal on mutually satisfactory terms will mitigate these uncertainties.

A Treasury minute issued earlier this month promised the Commons Committee of Public Accounts that the need to minimize the risk of liability to public funds arising from the MTS group's contracts would be constantly borne in mind.

£10m state aid for £100m Thames Board project

By Edward Townsend

Government grants totalling £22m have been approved by the Department of Industry for companies seeking assistance under the selective investment scheme.

The figure includes an interest relief grant of £10.5m awarded to Thames Board for its £100m project to build a cardboard-making factory in Workington. The grant is the largest so far made under the scheme and yesterday was the first to go before the Commons for approval.

Previously, the largest published grant was £1,375,000 to Albright and Wilson for a £21m chemical project at Whitehaven. It is understood that a few larger awards have yet to be disclosed.

The Thames Board project will create 280 jobs at Workington and a further 350 in the preparation and transport of the domestic wood thinnings to be used by the plant. The £10.5m is to be paid in tranches and the company will also qualify for regional development grants, currently estimated at £18m, on the building and plant costs.

Since the start of the selective investment scheme in December, 1976, several hundred inquiries have been received leading to approval in 40 cases, plus the Thames Board project. A further 87 cases are under consideration and 85 have been rejected

Latest details of other government industry aid scheme have been revealed in the Commons this week. The successful ferrous foundry scheme has led to offers totalling £58m and payments of £7m and relates to total foundry investment of £264m.

APEX walks out of Leyland pay reform meeting

The biggest white collar union in Leyland Cars—the Association of Professional Executive Clerical and Computer Staffs (APEX)—yesterday walked out of the pay reform negotiations affecting 20,000 staff employees.

Mr Ray Edwards, assistant general secretary of Apex, said the immediate implementation of central wage bargaining for staff at all 34 plants was being blocked by "the irresponsible attitude" of the Association of Commercial Technical and Supervisory Staffs (ACTSS).

This latest setback could put an end to Leyland's plans to press ahead with central wage bargaining for staff, despite the fact that similar negotiations affecting its 100,000 manual workers have been stopped by the TUC's refusal to lift the 12 months interval between pay increases.

Plea for development of producer co-operatives

By Caroline Atkinson

One answer to industrial conflict in Britain could be provided by the development of producer cooperatives along the lines of the 21-year-old Mondragon cooperative in northern Spain, according to the four authors of a study,* published today, of the Mondragon experiment.

Traditional conflicts between workers and owners or managers have led to a worse inflation at any given level of unemployment and the recent acceptance in Britain of the need for some form ow worker participation in industry.

Despite the poor track record of producer cooperatives in this country, the authors of today's report believe there could be an important third industrial sector based on common ownership.

Mondragon covers more than 70 enterprises with a combined turnover of £200m a year. It includes what is now the biggest and most successful manufacturer of refrigerators, cookers and washing machines in Spain.

Several key features of the organization are picked out by the authors. These include the democratic structure of control by the workers; their capital involvement through individual stakes; the contract between the individual industrial co-operatives and the cooperative bank which provides ground rules for managerial and financial disciplines, and the important back-up services of managerial advice provided by the bank.

Worker-owners: the Mondragon achievement; Anglo-German foundation for the study of industrial society.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Back to the interest rate cauldron

Financial markets were gripped by a fresh bout of MLR jitters last night and there must be a strong case for the Bank of England to provide a speedy indication of its views on the situation before matters get out of hand. It may be that the monetary authorities feel that a further rise in MLR, say to 8 per cent, is necessary. But if they do not, then they should say so.

This latest bout of interest-rate nerves has arisen partly because the Government Broker has not yet lowered his price for the "tap" stock and attempted to reactivate sales.

The question that poses is this: is potential demand weak because investors consider higher yields to be necessary, or because they simply do not have the money? If it is the former, then the authorities may have to give way to the market unless they feel that the news background and next week's banking figures are likely to improve sentiment. If the latter, then there must be a case for the authorities indicating that no useful purpose would be served by raising rates further at this stage.

The hope in that case would be that the appetite of the long-term funds would start to revive once the BP call was out of the way and year-end income started to flow in a big way. The risk, of course, is that having held rates down for several weeks, a bad news background or worrying money supply figures would still force an eventual increase in rates.

Building societies

Pressure on the medium-sized

Converts to the "small is beautiful" theory will be dismayed to hear of the merger between the £700m Anglia and £500m Hastings and Thanet building societies. But they would be wrong to criticize it since few would dispute the fact that there are too many building societies. The number is gradually diminishing—18 vanished last year and 24 the year before bringing the total at the end of 1976 to 364. Of these at least 100 are insignificant.

The growing polarization between the national and local societies has left medium-sized ones in limbo from which they try to escape by expanding to national size. And no matter how hard they try there is no other way now in which they will catch up with the Halifax, Abbey National, Nationwide, Leeds Permanent, Woolwich and Alliance—all with assets over £1,000m—except by mergers.

Investors and borrowers should welcome this. An enlarged society should be more efficient and branch office expansion—which enables them to operate on narrower margins.

For several years the giant societies have been chaffing at the constraint of single recommended investment and mortgage rates for all societies, large and small.

The first hints of open rebellion are here with the Abbey, followed by the Leeds and Britannia, refusing to trim its investment rate to existing savers at the beginning of the month. As a result of this conflict, changes in the way reserves and rates are fixed will be forthcoming; they are unlikely to ease the pressure on medium-sized societies. So, expect more mergers.

Company law

Still chasing the 'insider'

There are no real surprises in the Department of Trades White Paper on directors' responsibilities and insider trading. There will be quibbles about the precise form of directors should have statutory responsibiliwords but the guts of the proposals—that ties, to employees as well as shareholders, that loans to directors should be more tightly controlled and that insider trading should become a criminal offence—are now very much part of mainstream opinion in industry and the City.

The White Paper does not have all the answers, however. On insider trading it has chosen the route, opposed by the accountants, of attempting to define who will be treated as an insider, rather than the wider approach favoured in the United States of regarding insiders simply as those with inside information. The problem of defining is that it opens the way for the ingenious insider to find a way round the letter of the law while breaching its spirit, although the problem is largely met by extending the definition of an insider to those who deal on information they know to come from an insider.

The broader issue that remains is what the proper posture will be under the new legislation for institutions and stock brokers' analysts who are daily privy to information from companies not generally available to other shareholders.

The other grey area is the question of directors' responsibilities to employees. The principle is unexceptionable, but the application may be more difficult. For example, the White Paper says it will be lawful for directors to make provision for employees or former employees when closing down the whole or any part of the business. But where should the directors drawn the line between their duties to employees and to shareholders? The department's answer is that this must be left to the judgment of the board, but the question then is whether an unfortunate board might *not* find itself simultaneously the subject of claims from shareholders and employees that their inteersts have been under-represented

More fundamentally still, however, the issue is whether these proposals will actually be enacted, given the possibility of an election intervening mefore the 1978-79 parliamentary session.

● *It was the turn of Midland Bank, chaired by Lord Armstrong of Sanderstead (above), to set the cat among the pigeons over base rates yesterday with its decision to undercut both National Westminster and Lloyds by pushing up its rate by only three quarters of a point to 6¾ per cent. And perhaps even more surprisingly in view of the squeeze on domestic banking profits to accept a ½ per cent drop in the spread between base and deposit rates.*

With money market rates continuing to harden through the day, it looks as though NatWest's adventurous response to last week's MLR rise may be right, although Barclays is still waiting to see how the interest rate tea leaves settle before making its move.

Clearers are still being reticent about their precise reasons for diverging after being on the same interest rate escalator since their base rate cartel was swept aside to pave the way for Competition and Credit Control in 1971, and clearly with differing dependence on current account and wholesale money there is the s cope t premain out of line. But interest rate trends have never got the banks so flummoxed before to lead to four separate base rates and their real reason for moving apart probably ha smore to do with how they see sterling loan demand developing over the next few months.

Whether there ma yalso be some political milage in being seen to compete is also a moot point but with the Price Commission not to mention the Wilson Committee looking at their activities it cannot do them any harm.

Meanwhile, the latest base rate moves underline how misleading it has become to gauge them from money market rates. Conventional wisdom used to be that base rates where three month inter-bank rates plus a margin for low yielding reserve assets like Treasury bills but with the increasing volatility of interest rates that sort of correlation no longer holds.

Ships Swan Hunter could ill afford to lose

Mr Edmund Dell, the Trade Secretary, leaves for talks with Polish Government leaders next Monday aimed at promoting trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

His visit comes at a particularly inauspicious moment in view of the surprising and tragic decision yesterday of 1,700 workers employed by Swan Hunter to continue their overtime ban and thus effectively deprive the yard of seven sips as part of the £115m Polish shipbuilding deal.

The euphoria created last week with the signing of the shipbhilding contract with Poland—a controversial deal in itself becasse of the large amount of taxpayers money involld—quickly evaporated when it becamse clear that the workers concerned, who "fit out" ships, had determined to use the offer of the seven 16,500 ton deadweight bulk carriers for their yard as a *lever to promooe their claim* for parity with the boilermakers

The Poles, who had succeeded in forcing some fairly severe eerms in the course more than 18 months of negotiations, can handly have been encouraged by the spectacle of this fight on Tyneside.

Demands for written guaranfull cooperation in meeting tight delivery schedules, in volving hours of talks between union *leaders and shop stewards* of the dogged "outfit" workers, have come to nothing. Last minute relaxation of deadlines has not helped British Shipbuilders at a time when it needed to match its words with action.

Swan Hunter desperately needed the work on the seven Polish ships, worth £52m. The gsoup's yards are now virtually devoid of merchant shipbuilding contracts. Most of the activity is centred on the construction and fitting out of destroyers and the first of the Royal Nacy's through-deck cruisers, with a contract for the Iranian Navy also on the stocks.

Apart from the warship contracts, Swan has only two merchant ship orders—a bulk carrier and a small vessel for British Nuclear Fuels. The object of placing seven ships with Swan was that the yard would benefit *from "series* production" of the same type of ship aid this would therefore improve the chances of meeting the igh delivery schedule.

Several hundrd sl- workers have been kep on for th past few months—although there has been littl work for hem *to do*—in the hope that h company woud secure some ships from a large Nigerian contract that was being negotiated

That order was eventually split between Yugoslavia and South Korea.

The steelworkers were retained for a further period when it began to look as though the Polish contract would be clinched. Now redundancy stares the steelworkers *in the face*.

Ironically, they are members of the Boilermakers Society, whos better wage rates are at the heart of the outfit rades' grievances.

The dispute over pay parity has been simmering and boiling up periodically for more than two years. The boilermakers on Tyneside managed to secure wage increases ahead of the first phase of the Government's incomes policy in the summer of 1975.

The outfit trades attempted unsuccessfully to achieve parity with the boilermakers—the elite of the shipbuilding *industry's labour force who have* jealously guarded their position for generations—by lodging a cliam in the summer of 1975 after pay curbs were imposed and six months ahead of their normal wage negotiations.

In support of their demands they went on strike for nine weeks and returned to work without achieving their objective. The dispute has continued ever since, despite attempts by both national union leaders and the company's management to persuade the outfit trades to accept the terms of the procedure agreements negotiated between British Shipbuilders and the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

All appeals hhve gone unheeded and the outfit workers have refused to call off their three-month long ban on overtime. The tragedy is that other unions on Tyneside have provided the assurances *demanded* by British Shipbuilders, yet it will be some of those who have given a commitment who are likely to find themselves on the dole after Christmas.

Mr George Arnold, chairman of the Tyne dsitrict of the CSEU, said after yesterday's overwhelming vote against lifting of the overtime ban: "I feel very sad. If the order had been obtained we could still have proceeded with the claim for parity."

Thousands of shipyards workers on Tyneside will be less diplomatic in their reaction.

Peter Hill

Two bids to restore faith in investment trusts

British Rail's pensions funds had, by last night, narrowly won control of the £75m Edinburgh and Dundee Investment Company, and extended its offer in the hope that further shareholders will now accept. Its victory will give rise to great relief in the City this morning.

By the standards of the investment trust industry the bid is a big one and, together with the coal board pension funds' bid for British Investment Trust, has been watched with particular interest. The outcome of the two offers is seen as critical to the future course of the industry as a whole.

If they succeed, there is every chance that the sector, worth some £3,50m in the stock market, wil move into a new and more confident phase. If they fail, it will be thrust into a period of renewed uncertainty.

At issue is whether investment trusts in their traditional form can curvive as growing investment vehicles.

Recent history gives every reason to question the long-term future of the sector. As *the accompanying chart shows*, investment trust shares have encountered increasing disenchantment in the stock market over the past five years. This has been reflected in the growing discount to underlying asset values at which trust shares have been selling.

'The sector's shares have encountered increasing disenchantment in the stock market over the past five years'

From less than 5 per cent at one stage in 1972, the average discount for the sector widened to a peak of more than 40 per cent in November last year, although since then it has contracted again thanks to a series of bids.

The trusts themselves are by no means wholly to blame for the growing discount. They were originally conceived as a means whereby private investors could gain access to a wide spread of investments, but the general erosion of middle class wealth has meant that private investors have been steady sellers of all shares, including investment trusts.

Further, private individuals have increasingly been weaned away to unit trrusts, which are simpler and have in the past promoted themselves strongly.

Institutions have thus come to dominate the investment trust sector, as they have the whole of the equity market. Institutions, however, are not natural buyers of investment trusts. The wide spread of interests which makes trusts attractive to private investors hold few obvious charms for penion funds and insurance companies.

They already have big, broadly-based portfolios, together with the internal expertise to manage them. Buying trust shares is tantamount to admitting they have more faith in the trust's managers than they do in their own.

Trusts have never consistently outperformed the stock market as a whole anyway and, while they offer capital gains tax advantages, they suffer the *offsetting disadvantage* for income-conscious institutions of generally providing below average dividend yields. Institutions have thus also been net sellers of investment trust shares.

A further technical problem has been the persistent overhang on the market of the flood of new issues, totalling more than £500m, made by investment trusts in the halcyon days of 1972. The end result has been an oversupply of investment trust shares, which is chiefly to blame for the growing discounts.

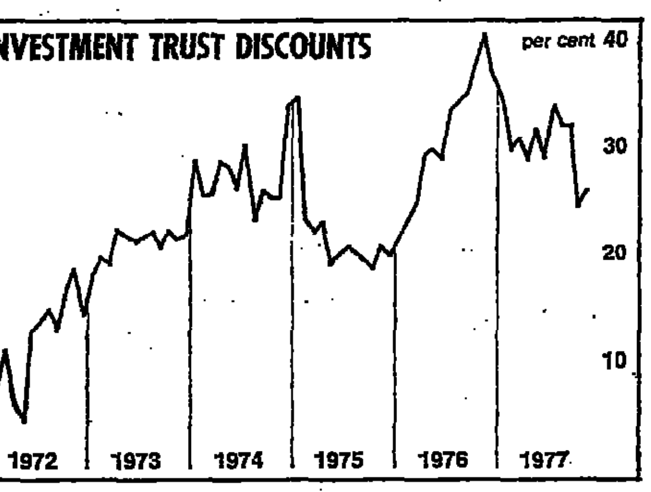
Clearly, when discounts reach as high as 40 per cent, they make a nonsense of the concept of investing in shares through the indirect medium of a trust rather than through direct purchase.

Trust managers have explored a variety of ways of reducing discounts to more palatable levels or eliminating them entirely. Improved publicity has played a part in this, but the more fundamental alternatives that have been looked at are *liquidation, utilization or takeover.*

The first two of these are problematic and can effectively be ruled out except in isolated cases. Both involve surrendering 25 per cent of the dollar premium on overseas investment (about 10 per cent of the average trust's assets), making capital gains tax payments on previously unrealized gains in the trust's portfolio and unravelling loan capital.

Liquidation could involve large costs and, in the case of big trusts, might be hard to achieve without a harmful effect on the equity market as a whole. In the event of unitization—that it, conversion into a unit trust, which sells at a price fully reflecting its underlying asset value—managers would also have to consider the possibility that there would be big sales of the units, creating serious problems for the new trust.

That leaves takeovers. So far this year there has been a stream of bids, chief among *which have been Commercial* Union's takeover of Estates House, the Prudential's takeover of Standard Trust and European Ferries' takeover of English & Caledonian.



Average discount for the investment trust sector to net asset values, *deducting prior charges at par and including full dollar premium.* Source: Laing & Cruickshank.

Some of the proceeds of these bids have been reinvested in the sector, with consequent impact on discounts. But as recently as September the average discount was still over 30 per cent, suggesting that investors did not yet believe that the problem of oversupply had been seriously tackled.

Edinburgh and Dundee and BIT are a different matter, however. The former has assets *of almost £90m and the latter* of £100m. Coming so close together the bids are certain to have a significant impact on the rest of the sector if they succeed.

Some money would flow back into trust shares, giving prices a lift and cutting discounts, and some would probably move elsewhere, helping to reduce the surplus of supply over demand, which is essential if discounts are to stabilize at a low level.

Both trusts' managers have, however, opposed the deals, essentially on the grounds of the bidders using the wrong definition of asset value in formulating their offers and the bid prices being too low? What if shareholders accepted their arguments?

Understandably, managers are reluctant to bow out of their trusts on anything except the best possible terms and the coal board pension funds have already made a concession with a minimum price offer that is likely to be higher than the "formula" bid. But the danger in rejection, if backed by shareholders, would be that it could leave the sector in limbo for a long time to come.

Other would-be pension fund bidders could be deterred by the prospect of having to pay too high a price or, alternatively, by the possible humiliation of being beaten off. That would leave the old *supply/demand* problems unsolved and the discounts would, in all probability, widen again.

If both bids succeed, on the other hand, the sector will be buoyed up further by the prospect of more bids to come from other institutions, for whom the purchase of investment trusts can be seen as the quickest and cheapest way to move a large sum of money into the equity market without adversely affecting general price levels.

Trusts would then have to consider their long-term rationale and how they could offer something that would *make them attractive to the* institutions as investments.

Some managers, notably Ivory & Sime and Rothschild, have already explored the potential by concentrating on specialist investments of the kind which most institutions cannot undertake properly for themselves. It may be specialization in particular foreign markets, or in special sectors of the economy such as energy. It may be in fast growing but small companies, which institutions cannot manage in a big portfolio, but which trust managers can monitor successfully.

If the prospect of rationaliza*tion of the sector from within* were to fail, it would be hard to avoid the conclusion that such avenues would be the only ones with a real future and that some of those trusts with big portfolios of "blue chip" holdings would be consigned to a steady and debilitating loss of investment following.

In particular, the losers would be those trusts with a market of value of, say, less than £20m, which are too small to be attractive to institutions. Reorganization into bigger groupings must be an essential first step.

Christopher Wilkins

Business Diary: Two of a kind • De Ferranti's ESC

Much the most difficult thing about building society mergers is amalgamating the people, particularly the senior managers. The proposed merger between the Anglia and the Hastings and Thanet societies is no exception.

To all intents and purposes the problem has been solved by the typically British compromise of making Peter Wilkinson and Eric Argent, the general managers respectively of the Anglia and the Hastings and Thanet, joint chief executives of the new society, to be called the Anglia, Hastings and Thanet.

How long this new arrangement will last is anyone's guess. Such compromises have not always succeeded in the building society movement, as watchers of mergers within the industry will testify. The problem is specially difficult with this merger, because there is remarkably little to choose between the two men.

Both are self-effacing 55-year-old accountants and—still a rarety among building society leaders—neither has been a time server with the movement. Wilkinson was with PE management consultants before he joined Anglia 14 years ago. Argent was with merchant bankers Antony Gibbs before moving to the quieter pastures of Hastings and Thanet 18 years ago.

Both are elected council members of the Building Societies Association.

The indications at the moment are that Wilkinson will concentrate on long-term development and Argent on administration. bBth reckon that they will have twice as much work to do as before.

Photograph: John Manning

A mere 32 years' service between them: Hastings and Thanet's Eric Argent and Anglia's Peter Wilkinson in London yesterday.

That should prevent squabbling, if nothing else, and so should the admission that both *recognize that the situation will* be difficult. However, they have known each other personally for a long time.

Neither had been in the habit of running his society as a personal fief (for they had to contend with stronger than average board) and the two strongly believe that beating their heads against a blick wall for growth is futile when they could do better by getting together.

Long-winded business names: however much they may lag behind the rest of the developed world in some refinements of modern living, South Africans can be as verbose as anybody else. Consider, for example, the exquisitely named Working Group on Procedures and Documentation of the Organisation for the Simplification of International Trade Procedures in South Africa.

■ I used to know what the EEC's Economic and Social Committee did, but I forgot.

Worse still, I didn't have time to look it up before I went to hear the committee's chairman, Basil de Ferranti, speak in London yesterday. But I needn't have worried.

De Ferranti made the widespread ignorance about the committee and its works the centre-piece of what he had to say. He was addressing a meeting organised by the Engineering Employers' Federation and the CBI and attended largely by members of employers' associations.

The ESC, de Ferranti reminded all those present, is a collection of pressure groups—employers, trade unionists, consumers and farmers, to name but a few—whose job it is to advise Brussels whether proposed legislation is "socially acceptable."

He spoke glowingly of the "constant communication" achieved as much between the ESC and the powers-that-be as between the members of the committee *itself*.

Communication is a fine thing, but one does rather have to take into account the quality of what is being communicated, so I felt emboldened to ask de Ferranti what he regarded as the ESC's single biggest success and failure during his stewardship.

On the greatest success, de Ferranti replied that he would duck the question "quite deliberately and unashamedly", as it was impossible to compare the importance of the committee's influence on a great many decisions.

As for failure, he eventually allowed that the inability of an ESC subcommittee to agree on worker participation after two years' deliberation might be accounted as such, although on the other hand it might have been a success in establishing that nobody could agree on this subject.

An ESC member, June Evans, was a little clearer. She said that Brussels had adopted the committee's line on the transport and slaughter of animals.

Secondly, she pointed with pride to her successful suggestion that ESC meetings should be graced by an alarm, to sound after four minutes' speechifying. This had been greeted with dismay by the Italians and the Irish who, she said, like at least 10 times as long to develop a point.

Both she and de Ferranti spoke for much longer than this yesterday. When I pointed out that by my count she had spoken for 12 minutes, Mrs Evans neatly countered by saying that she had been asked to speak for 15.

■ Claude Taittinger, president and director-general of the Taittinger champagne house (and owners of Paris hotels, among them the Crillon) renewed an acquaintance with Oxford yesterday.

Taittinger was at New College to address the university's wine circle on champagne.

He was last at Oxford in 1946, *when as a student at the* Ecole des Sciences Politiques he came to take part in an inter-university 800-metre sprint, and to his chagrin finished second.

Taittinger was able to throw a side-light on the interest in shipbuilding of Michael Grylls, the Tory MP for North-West Surrey and chairman of the Opposition's Industry Committee.

Grylls, who is asking the Public Accounts Committee to investigate the terms of the Poles' £115m shipping order, was once Taittinger's British distributor—champagne being a drink not uncommonly associated with the launching of ships.

The practice of serving free drinks on non-IATA airlines, now in the news, may make for happier passengers but it does not necessarily make for happier customers. I remember talking to the chief executive of one such airline who told me that one of his regular customers, a shipping firm that used the airline to fly out seamen to its ships, had said that it was not using the airline any more. It took too long to dry out the matelots, who were extremely tired and emotional by the time the aircraft touched down.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

MLR doubts fail to stop rally

In very thin and sensitive trading equities chose to disregard the unfavourable background news to stage another technical rally. "Cheap" buyers were encouraged at first by the Prime Minister's firm but sympathetic stand against the firemen which dealers saw as an attempt to reach a long-term compromise.

Prices moved further ahead as the "bears" began to feel the pinch and closed down and then moved to their best levels of the day as jobbers marked up to spur further action. This they failed to do and the *FT* Index, 10.4 up at 3 pm, closed a little off the top at 474.1, a net gain of 9.6 on the day.

Lindustries' shares were again strong, climbing 6p to 151p where they are 16p above Hanson Trust's abortive bid price and more than 50p higher than in early October. A line of shares changed hands at 150½p, and dealers now believe the buying is sufficiently purposeful to herald another bid. Hanson Trust declined to comment.

In the gilt-edged market trading also lacked substance but prices held up well to a widespread rumour that the authorities were considering another one per cent rise in MLR this week.

Long dates opened cautiously but within minutes were a quarter point better. These levels were held until lunchtime when they started to fall back and by the close were a quarter point below their overnight levels. At the shorter end the Midland base rate cut was interpreted as competitive and inspired early gains. But these levels were not held and by the end of the session most stocks were one quarter or three eighths off.

Renewed takeover talk boosted John Brown no less than 16p to 253p while gossip of rationalization in the drinks industry spurred speculative demand for issues like Arthur Bel, up 14p to 364p, Highland 5p to 120p and Distillers 8p to 171p. After Monday's late news of an approach G. Drew firmed another 2p for a close of 130p. Ahead of figures due next week George Bassett rose 6p to 140p and proved to be one of a number of firm features in the food sector. Other strong spots included Kwik Save 7p to 227p, Wheatsheaf 7p to 160p, Rowntree Mackintosh 5p to 385p and Associated Dairies which soared an exceptional 18p for a close of 258p.

News of possible business in the Middle East lifted Tarmac a couple of pence to 142p while favourable coment limfted FW Thorpe 11p to 49p. The prospect that higher interest rates will be good for margins helped the clearing banks to stage another strong rally. Midland after its base rate cut rosae 7p to 375p and there was a similar gain to 325p for Barclays. The other two, National Westminster and Lloyds were both 5p to the good at 275p.

With the BP shares due to go fully paid on Friday both the old and new were actively traded and were the busiest counters of the day. The old rose 18p to 918p while the partly-paid were 15p to the good at 380p.

Among engineers and electricals the best supported spots were GKN up 9p to 278p, Vickers 5p to 177p, GEC 6p to 243p and EMI which ended 5p to the good at 210p. But in spite of the vote to continue the overtime ban and the possible jeopardy to the Polish orders Swan Hunter held steady at 158p.

Another with labour problems is Reed International but the shares responded to a favourable circular and closed 8p ahead at 127p.

In spite of the new trend in interest rates property shares moved ahead notably MEPC which gained 5p to 114p in front of figures. After a statement Property & Reversionary "A" gained 4p to 292p

Higher rates in the money market confirmed earlier fears of another rise in MLR and late on some were even talking of a 2 per cent jump.

At 63p Rolls-Royce Motors was undisturbed by reports of the half finished £60,000 Silver Jubilee car for the Queen at Mulliner Park Ward. The shares' only prop is the 10.3 per cent yield. Group United Kingdom car sales figures for the first 10 months of this year were 1,090 against 1,315 in the same months the year before. The hard pound is not helping American profits either.

A flurry of speculative interest lifted Dundee textile group Sidlaw Industries 7p to 104p after 106p. There were no names of likely suitors but it was pointed out that the offshore drilling and servicing subsidiary, which now produces about 40 per cent of profits, is an obvious attraction.

Equity turnover on November 28 was 64.4 million (11,907 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were BP partly paid, BAT Industries, Beecham, BAT Dfd, GEC, ICI, Shell, Marks & Spencer, Reed International, Unilever, Consolidated Gold Fields, Midland Bank, Barclays Bank, Racal, G. Dew, Arthur Bell and John Brown.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Airfix Inds (I)	18.5(18.9)	1.5(1.7)	—(—)	1.2(1.1)	2 2	—(1.86)
Belgrave (I)	1.3(1.1)	0.07(0.111)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(2.6)
Burnett & Hall (I)	17.3(12.0)	0.68(0.50)	13.62(9.97)	1.4(1.2)	24 1	—(2.5)
Daily Mail Tst (I)	—(—)	0.86(0.77)	—(—)	4.3(3.9)	—	—(11.4)
Fine Art Devs (I)	17.2(12.7)	1.1(0.86)	1.22(0.92)	0.80(0.55)	19 1	—(1.20)
Hargreaves Gp (I)	70.4(57.8)	2.0(1.8)	3.6(3.6)	1.3(1.16)	27 1	—(2.8)
Hicking Pent (I)	4.3(3.8)	0.21(0.19)	4.05(4.24)	2.33(2.3)	—	—(6.4)
Leeds & Dist (F)	7.5(5.8)	1.0(0.68)	18.47(12.7)	2.0(1.8)	—	3.0(2.7)
Marling Inds (I)	6.5(5.0)	0.40(0.30)	1.93(1.45)	0.5(0.43)	7 2	—(—)
Prop & Rev (I)	—(—)	0.50(0.46)	3.8(3.5)	2.0(2.0)	17 1	—(4.6)
Rexmore (I)	14.1(12.6)	0.57(0.37)	6.66(3.88)	1.25(1.10)	13 1	—(3.6)
Rowlinson (I)	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)	0.72(0.66)	—	—(2.2)
Sena Sugar (F)	33.0(34.4)	9.1a(1.4a)	50.9a(1.2a)	Nil(Nil)	—	—(Nil)
Slivrthrne Gp (F)	4.6b(3.3)	0.29b(0.14)	4.40b(1.61)	1.0(1.0)	13 1	1.5(1.0)
Tecalemit (I)	15.6(12.5)	1.6(1.0)	—(—)	1.7(1.2)	—	—(3.2)
R Kelvn Wtsn (I)	1.6(1.3)	0.21(0.13)	—(—)	1.1(1.0)	1 2	—(2.1)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividends by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Loss. b For 15 months.

Rexmore limits sights

Textiles group Rexmore made pre-tax profits of £580,000 in the six months to September 30 against £338,000 last time. Turnover was up by 12 per cent from £12.6m to £14.15m.

However, the board say the figures are not comparable as the 1976 interims have been adjusted for the disposal of the hardware subsidiary Unerman Holdings and the latest figures include turnover and profits for J. Rosenthal & Sons which was acquired in March for a total of £1.45m cash.

Underlying profits growth is put at 18 per cent, indicating that Rosenthal made £179,000 in the six months on turnover of about £1.5m. The company expects a similar contribution in the second half.

The acquisition brought with it £825,000 cash in Resenthal and this has helped control borrowings. Gearing is now at around 50 per cent compared with about 60 per cent earlier in the year.

The gross interim dividend is 1.8939p per share. The shares improved 4p yesterday to 61p where they yield a prospective 10 per cent.

St Regis seek Reed, Smith

St Regis International, the United Kingdom arm of St Regis of New York, the fifth largest paper group in the world, is making an agreed bid for Reed & Smith Holdings which values the company at £5.1m.

The 63p per share cash bid means that the National Enterprise Board stands to make a profit of £720,000 on the near 30 per cent stake it took in the company at 33p per share last year.

Both the board of Reed & Smith and the NEB have indicated they will accept the bid in respect of their holdings, as have Ogilvy Benson & Mather making a total of 37 per cent of the equity.

St Regis are also offering 70p for the preference shares, par for the loan stock and 93p for the debenture stock.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, ANDHRA PRADESH AT HYDERABAD, INDIA. APPLICATION NOS. 104, 105 AND 106 OF 1976 IN C.S. 3 OF 1976

Between
HEMPEL'S MARINE PAINTS represented by its duly constituted attorney, Sri Manu Menda, Applicant in each of the above applications (plaintiff).
And
M/S PONTIKOS SHIPPING AGENCIES LTD., represented by Nicholas Pontikos. Respondent in each of the applications (Defendant).
To
M/S PONTIKOS SHIPPING AGENCIES LTD., represented by Nicholas Pontikos, Finance House, 136-137 Shoreditch High Street, London, E.1.

Please take notice that the above named applicant has made in the court mentioned above the following applications:

1. Application No. 104/1976 for adding Sri J. C. Goho, Receiver in C.S. 3/1976 on the file of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, India, as second defendant in the above suit.

2. Application No. 105/1976 to direct Sri J. C. Goho, the aforesaid Receiver appointed in C.S. 3/1975, to set apart and earmark sufficient funds in his hands to secure the claim of the *applicant in the event the applicant's suit claim is decreed;* and

3. Application No. 106/1976 to amend the plaint to enable the plaintiff to obtain a decree against Sri J. C. Goho, the aforesaid Receiver in C.S. 3/1975, by directing him to set apart and pay to the plaintiff a sum of Rs 40,651.96P together with subsequent interest and costs of the suit from out of the funds made available to him by the owners of the vessel M.V. Georgios C and, in the event such a decree is not possible for any reason, to pass a decree in favour of the plaintiff against you for payment of Rs.40,651.96P together with subsequent interest and costs of the suit.

You are hereby informed to appear in Court in person or by a duly instructed Advocate on 30.12.77 at 10.30 A.M. to show cause against the above three applications, failing which the said applications will be heard and determined in your absence.

(By order of the Court)
M/S D. V. Reddi Pantulu & M. S. R. Subrahmanyam.
Advocates for Applicant in each of the applications.
Hyderabad, 16.11.77.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE, ANDHRA PRADESH AT HYDERABAD, INDIA (ADMIRALTY URISDICTION) C.S. NO. 3 OF 1976
Between: HEMPEL'S MARINE PAINTS represented by their duly constituted attorney, Mr. Manu Menda, Plaintiff and M/S. PONTIKOS SHIPPING AGENCIES Ltd., represented by Nicholas Pontikos, Defendant. To M/S. PONTIKOS SHIPPING AGENCIES Ltd., represented by Nicholas Pontikos, Finance House, 136-137 Shoreditch High Street, London, E.1. [illegible]
M/S D. V. REDDI PANTULU & M. S. R. SUBRAHMANYAM, Advocates for the Plaintiff.
Hyderabad, 15.11.1977.

In the Matter of NOPI PRINT Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 [illegible]
C. MORRIS, Liquidator.

In the Matter of The Companies Acts, 1948 to 1976 and in the Matter of LANE FOX & COMPANY Limited (in Liquidation). [illegible]
M. A. JORDAN, J. D. NAYLOR, Joint Liquidators.

Y. E. HASWELL Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the Companies Act, 1948.
Notice is hereby given, that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company are required on or before the 30th day of December, 1977, to send their names and addresses and particulars of their Debts or Claims to the undersigned, BERNARD PHILLIPS, F.C.A., of 76, New Cavendish Street, London, W1M 8AH, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such Debts are proved.
Dated this 16th day of November, 1977.
BERNARD PHILLIPS, Chartered Accountant.

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 [illegible]
By Order of the Board, S. W. DOWLING, Company Secretary.

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 E.C. RUDDIN [illegible]
By Order of the Board, E. C. RUDDIN, Director.

Re: FAINWAY Limited T/A SWISS COTTAGE SAUNA and the Companies Act, 1948. [illegible]
DAVID JAMES MACDONALD, Director.

NOTICE
All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

LEGAL NOTICES

No 003516 of 1977
In THE HIGH COURT of JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION In the Matter of PARAMBE Limited and In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION was on the 31st October 1977 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the CONFIRMATION of the CANCELLATION of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company amounting to £1,430,334.

And notice is further given that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Templeman at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2 on Monday the 12th day of December, 1977.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said Cancellation of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 23rd day of November, 1977.
Parker Garrett & Co., St. Michael's Rectory, Cornhill, London, EC3V 9DU. Solicitors for the said Company.

Re: HOLIDAY HIRE SERVICES (NORTH WALES) Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the Companies Act, 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before Friday, 30th December, 1977, to send their names and addresses and particulars of their Debts or Claims to the undersigned DAVID JULIAN BUCHLER, A.C.A., at 76, New Cavendish Street, London, W.1, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claim at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distributions made before such Debts are proved.

Dated this 15th day of November, 1977.
DAVID J. BUCHLER, Chartered Accountant.

In the Matter of NOPI Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 31st day of December, 1977, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned C. Morris Esq., of Touche Ross & Co., 27 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1NF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 21st day of November 1977.
C. MORRIS, Liquidator.

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948 to 1967. THE TELEVISION DEPARTMENT Limited.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to section 293 of the Companies Act 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at Hall 17, Winchester House, London Wall, London, E.C.2, on Wednesday, the 21st day of December, 1977, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.

Dated this 29th day of November, 1977.
By Order of the Board.
D. WILDER, Secretary.

In the matter of O.E.B. Ltd. by order of the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE dated the 13th August 1977 NEVILLE ECKLEY F.C.A. of Pembroke House, 44 Wellesley Road, Croydon, has been APPOINTED LIQUIDATOR of the above-named company WITHOUT A COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION.
Dated 3rd November 1977.

FRANK GRAHAM & PARTNERS, Consulting Engineers of London, Reading & Exeter, wish to state that they have no connection whatsoever with FRANK GRAHAM & PARTNERS Limited, which company is the subject of the Winding Up Petition announced in The Times, 18th November, 1977.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968
The Church Commissioners have prepared a DRAFT PASTORAL SCHEME which provides for the following church to be declared redundant: St. John the Baptist, Rudmore (Diocese Portsmouth), and draft redundancy schemes to deal with the following churches in the manner specified: St. Michael, Driby (Diocese Lincoln)—appropriation to residential use, and St. John, Duxford (Diocese Ely)—preservation by the Redundant Churches Fund.
Copies of the relevant draft schemes may be obtained from the Commissioners at 1 Millbank, London SW1P 3JZ, and any representations should be sent to them at that address within 28 days of the publication of this notice.

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Investment and Finance

LONG ESTABLISHED hotel and restaurant business on South Coast needs private capital to expand operations. Contact Box 0111 K, The Times.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Delay in Christmas orders pins Airfix hopes on final quarter

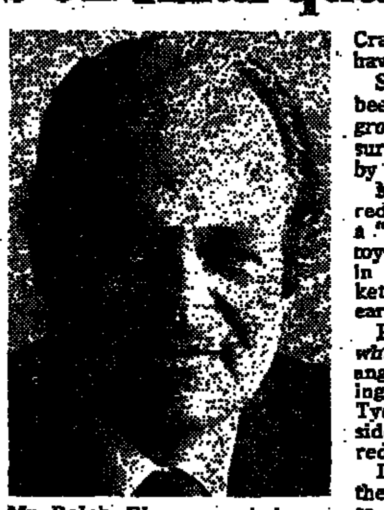
Christmas is coming, but in line with much of the toy trade Airfix Industries is still waiting for the customary rush of orders from the shops which has become the rule.

This year, however, most shops are restricting their buying while they let their stocks run down.

Airfix normally has a space of late orders for delivery before December 10 or 12, but any tax repayments due under the Mini Budget will come too late to affect manufacturers' deliveries before Christmas, even though ti should boost sales in the shops.

For his part, Mr Ralph Ehrmann, the group's chairman, hopes that the shops will have a big sell-out over Christmas, as Airfix could then look for a good final quarter to March 31.

It is still too early to say how the second half will compare with the £3.35m made last year, but the first six months to September 30 has been hard-hit by the depression. Turnover dipped from £18.9m to £18.5m while pre-tax profits dropped 13 per cent to £1.55m.


Mr Ralph Ehrmann, chairman of Airfix Industries.

Profits from the general plastics side, which includes the Crayonne household plastics, have increased.

Since September, there has been some improvement for the group, but little sign of the upsurge in retail demand forecast by the Government.

Mr Erhmann says that the reduction in interim profits is a "reflection of the off-take of toys in a period of depression in the domestic consumer market". The signs of this came early.

By September the group, which owns 56 per cent of Tri-ang Pedigree, cut out the working week of Tri-ang's Merthyr Tydfil factory—just when that side of the toy business was reducing its losses.

Despite losses at Meccano, the group's toy side managed to raise its profits from £3.02m to £3.3m over the whole of last year, but the fastest growth came from the general plastics side, which includes Crayonne household accessories. Profits here went up from £253,000 to £606,000.

Fine Art has full-time £4.5m well in sight

By Richard Allen

Fine Art Developments, Britain's biggest manufacturer of greetings cards, increased pre-tax profits by one third to £1.15m in the half-year to September 30.

The group which raised £1.85m by a rights issue in May of this year, reports that the interim figures are particularly successful because the Christmas selling season started earlier than in the previous year.

Even so, Mr Francis Kerry, chairman, says that sales in the second half show a satisfactory increase so far and the company expects that full-year results will be highly satisfactory.

Fine Art's share climbed 2p to 44p on the profits news.

Last year the group made £3.6m pre-tax, and given a continuation of first-half growth this year's total should amount to more that £4.5m.

Sales in the first half climbed from £12.7m to £17.25m and underlying volume growth amounted to as much as 20 per cent according to Mr Kerry. Total sales last year were £33.38m.

The interim dividend goes up to 1.2p gross against 0.85p last time. The group has Treasury permission following the May rights to raise the total payment to 2.78p gross on the increased capital.

Fine Art has used the proceeds from the one-for-four rights—at a price of 21p—mainly to acquire warehouse premises in France, Germany and Australia, with the intention of maintaining worldwide competitiveness. The cost of the new premises was around £1.1m and the group intends to invest around £3.5m in further manufacturing facilities in the United Kingdom over the next few years.

Although best known as a greetings card manufacturer, profits have increasingly come from the mail order side which now accounts for over 70 per cent of sales.

Hargreaves tops £2m at midterm and good second-half likely

By Alison Mitchell

Pre-tax profits at West Yorkshire conglomerate Hargreaves Group topped the £2m mark for the first time in the six months to September 30 last. This compares with £1.8m for the comparable period in 1976 and comes on the back of turnover up by over a fifth from £57.9m to £70.4m.

Trading conditions remained uncertain, according to Mr David Peake, chairman, and overall margins tightened during the period. However the second half has started well, he reports.

Star performer was the plant hire, contracting and waste disposal side which saw its profits contribution rise from a previous £188,000 to £334,000. This division now makes up just over 15 per cent of the total.

Hargreaves has been partly cushioned in the plant hire business from the depression in the construction industry, which has been biting hard in the North East, by its wide spread of interests. Some of its plant, including compressors, are angled towards industrial use as well as construction and as such have not been subjected to the same pressures.


Mr David Peake, chairman.

The waste disposal side has also shown an increase in its contribution. Hargreaves operates the only British treatment centre for toxic waste, at Wakefield, according to the chairman, and the oil recovery business, though currently being operated in quite a small way, is likely to expand in the future.

In line with the sector the fertiliser manufacture and distribution side could not hold its own and profits fell slightly frof £753,000 to £70,000. Margins have had to absorb much of the increased costs of raw materials but these have not been large as those of the 1975-76 period. Because of the seasonal nature of the business of associate company Hargreaves Fertilisers most of the profit falls in the first half but Mr Peake is looking for an improved second half this time round.

The quarrying side has also seen an upturne

Tecalemit's growth slows but record likely

By Victor Felstead

Despite Tecalemit's first half-year's growth being less than half that of the previous year, pre-tax profits still jumped by 58 per cent.

On turnover just under 25 per cent higher at £15.6m in the six months to October 7 pre-tax profits rose from £1.06m to £1.68m—a record for a first half. Mr Nigel Bennett, the chairman, expects the full-year's figures to top 1976-77 by a "satisfactory margin". This is provided that the level of incoming orders continues to be buoyant and that group companies are not badly affected by industrial unrest elsewhere.

All operating divisions traded profitably and margins were maintained at the same level as that achieved over the whole of the preceding 12 months. During the half-year, the business of Tecalemit Garage Equipment was transfered to its new factory at Belliver.

Group pre-tax profits passed the £1m mark in 1975-76, reaching £1.18m. In the following 12 months, they soared by 139 per cent to a best-ever £2.82m. Tecalemit was helped by the fact that the recent rights issue resulted in a much reduced interest burden. But the real key to its success was the cutting out of unprofitable products and he concentration on the more profitable lines. The group generally became more efficient

Group activities cover fluid transfer and filtartion, lubrication systems, garage equipment and combustion engineering.

The board intends to lift the total dividend for the current year by the maximum allowed 10 per cent. Since the continued improvement in cash flow enables the board to equalize the amounts paid as interim and finals, the interim wil now go up from 1.98p to 2.72p gross. There is also a small additional payment to compensate for the restrospectivereduction in the basic rate of tax to 34 per cent. The total half-year payment will be 2.76p gross.

Marling Ind pre-tax up by a third

It looks as though the reinvestment of profits is paying off for the Marling Industries industrial textiles group. For the last three years, profits have declined. But, in the half-year to September 30, pre-tax profits climbed by a third to £404,000 cent greater at £6.54m. With on the back of turnover 28 per earnings per share up from 1.45p to 1.93p, the interim payment, gross, rises from 0.67p (adjusted) to 0.75p.

In the last annual report, the board explained that in the preceding two years the group had reinvested a large part of profits from its traditional businesses in bringing new products to fruition and in raising home and export turnover to high levels. Spending on equipment for modernisation was expected to remain high.

Colman Group sells its Fitzroy Inv stake

The E. Alec Colman Group is selling its 1 million shares (24.15 per cent) in Fitzroy Investments.

The buyers are Mr G. C. Thompson and Mr R. K. Walker—two directors of London United Investments. In a rescue bid, to forestall a liquidation of Fitzroy, Mr Alec Colman stepped in in June 1976 to buy the property and construction business of Fitzroy. The Colman representatives are now leaving the Fitzroy Board.

Welcome likely for Mid Kent issue

A good reception is expected for the Mid Kent Water issue announced today when subscription lists open next Tuesday. The minimum tender price for the £5m 7 per cent redeemable preference stock, 1982, has been fixed at £99 but with some shortage of dated preference stocks in the market the issue is expected to attract a premium of at least £0.50.

At the minimum issue price the stock offers a flat yield of 10.7 per cent, around 1.3 per cent over the comparable gilt, though the main attraction is to institutions who can take advantage of franked income as the stock is worth 14.58 per cent to them.

Hicking Pentecost edges ahead

Nottingham-based Hicking Pentecost continues to make progress. On turnover 14 per cent up at £4.37m in the half-year to October 1, pre-tax profits edged forward by 12 per cent to £216,000. This was after heavier interest of £39,000, against £27,000.

In the 12 months to March 31 last, pre-tax profits were little changed at £421,000, against £410,000. The knitwear division contributed a further substantial rise in profits for the half-year.

Margins pressure but Bolton Textile ahead

By Ashley Druker

News from Bolton Textile Mill after its recovery in 1976-77 from £31,000 to £305,000 pre-tax is for higher profits this time round for the year to end April next. Mr I. Goletka, chairman of this textiles and women's clothing group, says in his annual review that with the gradual improvement in the general economy and trading conditions, turnover is ahead of the same period in 1976.

Factors in last year's rally were encouraging results as expected from increased exports in the warp knitting section. Also, following the shut-down of one manufacturing division, the clothing section came in with better results. Re-shaped it is expected to make a greater contribution this time round. Children's wear chipped in with "excellent" results and with full order books all the signs are that this trend will continue.

Leather, which contributed substantially to profits last year, shows a good increase in turnover in the present term though higher prices and costs put pressure on profit margins. But there is confidence on prospects in view of the continuing demand for its products in the clothing, furniture and allied sectors.

Total source of funds in 1976-77 was £476,000 and their application some £321,000, including £166,000 for purchase of fixed assets, leaving an increase in the working capital of £155,000. Meanwhile an analysis of the percentage of turnover and pre-tax profits shows textile and clothing brought in 76.7 and 47 per cent respectively, leather 22.9 and 53 and premium offer promotion 0.4 (turnover only).

In accordance with the procedure in previous years, it is proposed that the profit target relating to any shares issued under the share incentive scheme in 1977 should again be pre-tax gross earnings a share of 9.15p.

Burnett & Hallam to keep up opening spurt

Progress continues apace at Burnett Hallamshire Holdings with the group announcing record half-time profits coupled with the news that this buoyancy will be maintained.

Results of the Sheffield-based group, which has interests in mining and commercial activities, shows a jump in pre-tax profits of 35 per cent to £1.42m for the six months to September 30. Turnover increased from £12m to £17.3m but margins slipped from 8.7 to 8.2 per cent. The directors declare an interim dividend of 2.16p against 1.9p gross.

In his statement with the results Mr Nigel F. Swiffen, chairman, says that the summer period has matched the level of activity of the preceding winter six months and as such is an improvement on the performance of the past years.

The strip mining and oil distribution division showed improved results with benefits gained from the inclusion of the new South Yorkshire site and the oil purchase in the South-West region.

In the construction division, both civil engineering and building have achieved satisfactory sales volume but only property development, where institutional yields have improved, has not been subject to pressure on profit margins.

The capital now employed by the group now stands at £8m and the capital expenditure programme amounting to £3.25m for the year as whole is well in hand.

Looking forward Mr Swiffen considers that progress will be maintained as planned. The dispute which began in 1971 concerning the group's proposal to work 200 acres of opencast coal in the Forest of Dean has now been resolved now that the Government has granted permission. Legal proceedings are now unlikely to occur. The group now expects that work on this project should start in mid-1978.

Parkland jumps by 50pc

In spite of the constant threat at Parkland Textiles of the continued import of textiles of all kinds from cheap labour-cost countries, the group has still managed a 50 per cent increase in pretax profits to £1.01m for the six months to September 2.

Turnover of the Bradford-based group has increased from £10.7m to £13.8m and the directors declare an interim-dividend of 2.06p gross compared with 1.8p.

Although the group has to compete with cheap labour countries it is still in a position to compete with most Western European spinners and manufacturers. It's order books at present are satisfactory but its margins are still not as large as the yshould be to cover the risks and capital requirements necessary in the textile business.

However trading in the second-half of the current year is expected to be at least equal to the first half.

Takeover payment closer for Swan Hunter holders

Sir John Hunter, chairman of the Swan Hunter Group, yesterday welcomed news of a Government hand-out to shareholders affected by nationalization.

He told the annual meeting in Newcastle that the pay-out—due next January—was part-payment until the negotiations between the Government and all nationalized shipbuilding firms were complete.

"It would seem to indicate that an acceleration in the negotiations is likely".

Sir John said that a new company would be formed in the near future which would take-over the trading and other assets of the group which are left after nationalization. "It is the board's intention to return to shareholders the amount of compensation together with those funds surplus to the requirements of the new company".

He told shareholders that the present depression in shipping had hit hard as ship-repairing services.

Briefly

LOCAL AUTHORITIES
With a coupon of 8¼ per cent, yearling bonds this week include Sheffield £3m, Glasgow and Strathclyde with £1m apiece. Variables include Wirral with £1.25m and Gateshead with £1m.

NCB PENSION SWITCH
National Coal Board Pension Funds has switched its market purchases of British Investment Trrst to the assented shares. Purchases of 2.4m shares means that the NCB now controls 15 per cent of BIT. Acceptances are "encouraging".

SILVERMINES' STAKE
Silvermines, Dublin-based mining group, has taken 26 per cent stake in Anglian Windows, privately-owned Norwich-based aluminium window company for £495,000 cash. Shares came from group of shareholders led by East Anglian Securities Trust.

KCA INTERNATIONAL
This is the new name of Berry Wiggins from today, following shareholders' approval on Nov 11.

AUDIO FIDELITY
Chairman says likelihood of 1977-78 profit matching year before's remote. Retail trading prospects uncertain.

CAPARO-SINGLO HOLDINGS
Offers from Caparo to buy Singlo extended to Dec 12. Acceptances so far 0.2 per cent.

TRANSVAAL CONS LAND
Transvaal Consolidated Land and Exploration should at least maintain dividend in year to September 30, Mr A. C. Petersen, chairman, says. No big improvement in earnings this year but growth should be resumed from 1979.

AMALGAMATED STORES
Property investment group has made five freehold and leasehold acquisitions with open market value of pu to £1.16m.

GEC CAPITAL NOTES
GEC's floating-rate unsecured capital notes, 1986, will carry an interest rate of 8 11-16 per cent pa for six months ending May 31, 1978.

CLONIAL SUGAR
Colonial Sugar Refining has extended bid for Australian Associated Resources until December 23 and stated that it is entitled to 8 per cent of AAR's shares. Conzinc Riotinto of Australia, a 72.6 per cent owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto-Zinc, which owns 12 per cent of AAR, has so far not accepted the CRA bid.

Degussa chief foresees gold rising to $200 plus—but not for long

From Peter Norman, Bonn, Nov 29

Herr Gert Becker, the chief executive of the West German precious metals and chemical concern, Degussa, forecasts a rise in the price of gold to more than $200 an ounce next year from the present $161.

But he cautioned that the price was unlikely to exceed the 200 level for any length of time.

Degussa reported that its sales rose by 4.7 per cent to DM4,455m in the year ended September 30. Parent company turnover advanced by 3.5 per cent to DM3,766m.

An interim report makes clear, however, that sales growth slowed in the second half of the accounting period when group sales advanced by 3.8 per cent to DM2,280m and parent company turnover rose by only 1.7 per cent to DM1,913m compared with the second half of 1975/6. Degussa said that earnings in 1976/7 should be on about a par with those in 1975/6. It added, however, that 1977/8 will not be an easy year although it is looking to the future with cautious optimism.

International

Stevin 1-for-6 rights

The Steven group international contractors, plan to raise 24m florins (about £5.5m) by a one-for-six rights issue of 4.7m florins, that is 20 shares at 105 florins each to finance new projects and equipment. Nominal share capital will be increased from 28.3m to 33m florins. One of the largest Dutch-based international construction companies with interests in Britain, it will be Stevin's first public share issue since the group was formed by the merger of three Dutch consince then turnover has increased from well under £100m to over £400m. The group's order book now stands at over £530m. The issue will be made on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, where Steven's ordinary shares have been quoted at 139.50 florins.

Boost for Swissair

Swissair's total earnings rose by 14 per cent in October compared with the same period in 1976. This was against an 11 per cent increase in costs before depreciation. The airline said it provided 5 per cent more capacity but met almost 14 per cent more demand so that total capacity use rose to 61 per cent from 56 per cent with the seat-occupancy ratio rising to 66 per cent from 61. Passengers carried rose by 13 per cent, freight transport 14 per cent, and mail transport 5 per cent.

Pioneer Electronic

Pioneer Electronic Corporation of Japan, say that consolidated net profit in the year ended September 30 rose by 7 per cent to 14,800m yen from 13,000m yen in the previous year. Sales gained 14.5 per cent to 206,000m yen from 180,500m yen.

Pioneer said that the Japanese economy during the last business year continued to be sluggish, and the audio industry experienced a difficult environment, resulting in lower domestic sales, while export profitability was seriously affected by the rise in the yen's value. Export sales in the year rose by 11 per cent to 89,700m yen and accounted for 54.5 per cent of total sales, up from 50.2 per cent a year earlier.

Schering takeover

Schering AG of West Germany says it has agreed to take over the German plant protection and fertilizer marketing activities of Philips-Duphar BV, a 100 per cent subsidiary of Philips Lamps, from January 1. Previously, the activities wert carried out by Philips-Duphar GMBH of Duesseldorf, a subsidiary of Allgemeine Deutsch Philips Industrie. Schering declined to give financial details of the agreement, but said the German Philips-Duphar activities involved a turnover of around DM45m (about£10.7m).

Sonatrach bank loan

Sonatrach, the Algerian state oil and gas company, has obtained a $54m (about £30m) seven-year bank loan under agreements signed in London, the agent, Citicorp International Bank announced.

Citicorp said the loan, which is guaranteed by Banque Exterieure D'Algerie, is repayable in instalments after three years of grace. Interest is calculated periodically at 1.625 points above prevailing inter-bank Eurodollar offered rates. Fees were not disclosed. Proceeds are to finance construction of a lubricants plant at Arzew in north-west Algeria. Managers of the syndicated bank loan were Citicorp, Westdeutsche Landesbank, Algemene Bank Nederland, Creditanstalt-Bankverein. Co-managers were Bank of Tokyo, Banque Intercontinentale Arabe, Interbank, Oesterreichische Volksbanken and Orion Bank.

International Harvester

Profit of International Harvester of United States, manufacturer of self-propelled heavy machinery and vehicles, for the fourth quarter was $76.4m (about £42.4m) against $48.1m.

This was on sales of $1,700m against $1,500m. Net profit for the year was $203.7m against $173.1m.

Esso Italiana losses

Esso Italiana will completely cover its accumulated losses of 59,900m lire at December 31, 1976, by changing its depreciation accounting. The amount available for this cover totals 60,400m lire, the company reports. The announcement came after a meeting of the Esso Italiana shareholders—effectively, the parent concern, Exxon Corp. Under the so-called Legge Visentini, companies were allowed to revalue their depreciated holdings to reflect so-called inflation accounting. Thus, later repreciation set-asides were increased, since the book value of the goods depreciated was itself raised.

Combustion-Veto

Combustion Engineering of America has received about 98.8 per cent of the outstanding Vetco common stock under its tender bid for all Vetco shares at $23 each, and extended the tender until December 9. The offer originally expired on November 28, and may be extended beyond December 9. Vetco is capitalized at 609 million common shares.

Business appointments

Changes at the top for Ransomes Sims

Mr Bob Dodsworth is to be the new managing director of Ransomes Sims & Jefferies. He succeeds Mr Geoffrey Bone, who will take over the chairmanship from Sir Peter Greenwell in February.

Mr T. Peter Lee has been made a deputy director-general of the Takeover Panel.

Mr P. F. A. Nash will be joining the board of R. P. Martin. Mr P. M. Shafto is retiring.

Mr William Todd has been made chairman of the general engineering and foundries division of B. Elliott.

Mr S. J. Keynes has gone on to the board of Premier Consolidated Oilfields.

Mr F. S. K. Baron has been made chief executive-designate of the international trading region of the Guthrie Corporation. He will take over as regional chief executive in May on the retirement of Mr R. F. Jenkins. Mr T. E. Francis has been made managing director-designate of Guthrie (Nigeria).

Mr John Thomas is now managing director of Greggs of Manchester.

Mr P. T. Daniels has joined the board of Elizabeth Marine & General Insurance.

Mr Eric Mengham has been made managing director of Eternit Building Products.

Mr J. C. Fraser has become commercial director of Joseph Crosfield & Sons, in succession to Mr D. S. Fawcus, who will shortly be taking up a post in London with the Overseas Committee of Unilever.

Mr Christopher Bailey becomes managing director of Tunnel Building Products.

Mr G. R. Oram has been made financial director of Midland Electric Manufacturing. Mr F. G. Sparrow becomes director and chief designer.

Mr Albert Humphrey has become a director of Coffenco International.

Mr Kevin McCourt is to join the board of Jefferson Smurfit Group from January 1.

Mr Michael Thompson has been made a director of Williams Lea Group.

Mr Alan Elliott is the new managing director of Enfield Newspapers, succeeding Mr Jim Hancock.

Mr D. W. Rogers is to be managing director of Standard Gas Fittings.

Mr T. H. Joly de Lotbiniere is to succeed Mr S. N. B. Leishman as senior partner of Grenfell & Co next April.

Mr John Dexter has been made managing director of L. K. Machinery.

Mr John Craggs has joined the board of A. & P. Appledore International.

Mr Stanley Johnson is joining Wigham Poland (L. & P.) on January 1 as actuary and director.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER: Cash wire bars lost £5.50 and three months was £6 lower.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £660-60.50 a metric ton; three months, £675-76. Sales, 2,700 tons. Cash cathodes, £649-51; three months, £664.50-65.00. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £661.50-62.50; three months, £677-77.50. Settlement, £662.50. Sales, 11,550 tons (mainly carries). Cash cathodes, £650.50-51.00; three months, £665-65.50. Settlement, £651. Sales, 350 tons.

SILVER lost about 3p in the ring.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 260.4p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 472.8); three months, 264.9p (480.8c); six months, 270.5p (484.7c); one year, 281.2p (507.5c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 259.4-59.6p; three months, 264.2-64.3p. Sales, 32 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, 260-60.3p; three months, 264.7-64.8p. Settlement, 260.3p. Sales, 30 lots.

TIN was easier.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £7,035-45 a metric ton; three months, £6,865-70. Sales, 400 tons (mainly carries). High grade, cash, £7,035-45; three months, £6,920-30. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £7,030-35; three months, £6,840-50. Settlement, £7,035. Sales, 720 tons (about half carries). High grade, cash, £7,030-35; three months, £6,900-20. Settlement, £7,035. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works SM1,781 a picul.

LEAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £353-34 a metric ton; three months, £359.50-60.00. Sales, 1,500 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £351.50-51.75; three months, £358-58.50. Settlement, £351.75. Sales, 2,850 tons.

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £288-89 a metric ton; three months, £294.50-95.00. Sales, 1,350 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £288.50-89.00; three months, £295-95.00. Settlement, £289. Sales, 2,550 tons (half carries). All afternoon prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was at £95.30 ($173) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was uncertain (pence per kilo).—Jan, 51.60-51.80; Feb, 52.20-52.35; Jan-March, 52.20-52.30; April-June, 53.25-53.50; July-Sept, 55-55.05; Oct-Dec, 56.80-56.90; Jan-March, 58.60-58.85; April-June, 60.40-60.50; July-Sept, 62.00-62.15. Sales, 240 lots at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were irregular.—Spot, 51.25-52.75. Cifs Jan, 51.55-51.65; Feb, 52-52.25.

COFFEE was about steady.—Nov £1,802-05 per metric ton; Jan £1,787-90; March £1,673-75; May £1,589-90; July £1,535-45; Sept £1,515-20; Nov £1,466-70. Sales: 1,667 lots including 51 options.

PALM OIL quiet.—Dec unquoted. Jan £259-63 per metric ton; Feb £255-76; March £252-74; April £252-60; May £247-60; June £247.50-48.00; July £244-57; Aug £244-55.

COCOA was easier.—Dec £2,042-43 per metric ton; March £1,903-03; May £1,793-95; July £1,745-65; Sept £1,725-30; Dec £1,685-95; March £1,655-75. Sales, 6,208 lots including 12 options. ICCO prices: daily, 144.91c; 15-day average, 156.42c; 22-day average, 157.68c (UC cents per lb).

SUGAR futures were quiet. The London daily price of "raws" was £1 lower at £104; the "whites" price was unchanged at £109.—Dec expired. £106-04 per metric ton; March, £121-21.10; May, £127.05-27.10; Aug, £130.70-31.00; Oct, £134.50-34.65; Dec, £136.75-37.00; March, £139.25-39.50. Sales: 1,918 lots.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet.—Dec, £118-18.50 per metric ton; Feb, £113.40-13.50; April, £113.10-13.50; June, £114.60-15.10; Aug, £115.10-16.00; Oct, £115.60-17.00; Dec, £117-18. Sales: 164 lots.

WOOL: Greasy futures were steady (pence per kilo).—Dec, 238-44; March, 237-39; May, 237-38; July, 238-42; Oct, 240-45; Dec, 243-45; March, 243-46; May, 244-48. Sales: nil.

JUTE was steady.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, Nov-Dec, $445 per long ton. "D" grade, Nov-Dec, $428. Calcutta was steady.—Indian, spot, Rs580 per bale of 400 lbs. Dundee Tossa Four, spot, Rs590.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT**.—Canadian western red spring No 1, 13½ per cent: Nov-Dec, £83.60 Tilbury. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent: Dec, £81.75; Jan, £83.50 trans-shipment east coast.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American/French: Dec, £92.50 east coast.

BARLEY was unquoted. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was slightly easier: Jan, £70.70; March, £72.55; May, £74.70; Sept, £76.05. Sales: 107 lots. **WHEAT** was slightly easier: Jan, £77.65; March, £79.30; May, £81.30; Sept, £80.75. Sales: 42 lots.

Home-Grown Cereal Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Humberside	£67	£73.40	£69.30
Gloucs	—	£70.20	£68.30

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markers on November 29.—GB: Cattle 55.36p per KgLW (−0.06). UK: Sheep 125.3p per KgEstDCW (+0.8). GB: Pigs 59.3p per KgLW (no change). England and Wales: Cattle numbers up 14.9 per cent, average price 55.26p (+0.14). Sheep numbers up 14.5 per cent, average price 126.3p (+0.7). Pig numbers up 12.8 per cent, average price 59.1p (no change). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 12.7 per cent, average price 55.6p (−0.71). Sheep numbers up 30.2 percent, average price 116.5p (−3.6). Pig numbers up 17.9 per cent, average price (−0.4).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange).—In home-produced all available supplies are being readily absorbed at the higher price levels. In imported no arrivals have been reported.

Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120 based on trading packer/first-hand):

		Wed/Thur/Fri	Mon/Tues
White	1's	4.30 to 4.60	4.45 to 4.70
	2's	4.15 to 4.40	4.30 to 4.60
	3's	3.90 to 4.10	3.90 to 4.20
	4's	3.80 to 4.00	3.90 to 4.10
	5's	2.90 to 3.20	3.20 to 3.40
	6's	2.40 to 2.60	2.30 to 2.65
	7's	1.80 to 2.10	1.90 to 2.20
Brown	1's	4.50 to 4.80	4.60 to 5.00
	2's	4.40 to 4.70	4.50 to 4.80
	3's	4.00 to 4.20	4.10 to 4.30
	4's	3.90 to 4.10	4.10 to 4.20

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

TEA.—There was a better general inquiry for the 49,159 packages offered at the weekly auction, in particular for brighter liquoring sorts, the London Tea Brokers' Association said. Assams closed 4p to 6p per kilo easier after opening 5p to 10p lower. Dooar and Bangladesh teas were unwanted. Selected brighter Africans gained a few pence while mediums shed about 2p to 3p. Mozambique teas were often 2p dearer at the close. Demand for Sri Lanka teas was more general at the previous week's closing rates. Bopfs were about steady while bops met limited interest and poor leaf were again neglected. In South Indian teas there was a strong demand for the few Nilgiri bopfs which were firm to dearer. The remainder tended easier with poorer sorts receiving no support.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

US STRAIGHTS ($)

	Bid	Offer
Australia 7½ 1984	95½	97½
Australia 8½ 1992	96½	97½
Aust Mining 9½ 1993	100½	101½
Avco 9½ 1985	101½	102½
Barclays 8½ 1992	99	99¾
Bowater 9½ 1992	100	100¾
British Gas 9 1981	103	103¾
Citicorp 6½ 1980	97¾	98½
Citicorp 7 1981	97½	98
CECA 8½ 1989	97½	98½
CECA 8¾ 1987	98¾	99¼
DSM 8½ 1987	97½	98¼
Elf Aquitaine 8½ 1985	98	98¾
EIB 8½ 1987	98	98½
EEC 7¾ 1984	97½	98½
Fisons 8½ 1992	97½	98
Gotaverken 7¾ 1982	98½	99¼
Gotaverken 8½ 1987	96	96¾
Hydro Quebec 9 1992	98½	99¼
ICI 8½ 1987	99	99¾
IU O'seas 8¾ 1987	98¾	99¼
Light-Services 9 1983	97½	98½
MacMillan Bloed 9 1992	101½	102
Midland Int 8½ 1993	99½	100
NCB 8 1987	95½	96¼
Nat West 9 1986	102½	103
New Zealand DFC 7½ 1984	97½	98
Nippon Fudosan 8 1981	99	99¾
Occidental 8½ 1987	99½	100
Occidental 9½ 1981	103½	104½
Offshore Mining 8½ 1985	98½	99½
Quebec 9 1995	97	97¾
Rank Hovis 9 1992	97½	98
R. J. Reynolds 7½ 1982	98½	99½
Sandvik 9½ 1986	100½	101½
Statsforetag 7¾ 1982	97½	98½
Sundstrand 8½ 1987	99½	100½
Sweden 7¾ 1982	98	98¾
Sweden 8½ 1987	97½	98
Tauernautobahn 8½ 1987	99	99¾
Walter Kidde 8½ 1985	98½	99½
FLOATING RATE NOTES		
Andelsbanken 7 1984	96¾	97¾
CCF 6½ 1985	98	98½
IBJ 6½ 1982	98½	98¾
LTCB 6½ 1982	98¾	99¼
OKB 6½ 1985	99½	99¾
Soc Gen 7 9-16 1984	97½	98
CANADIAN DOLLARS		
Avco 9½ 1982	99¾	100¾
BM-Rt 8¾ 1982	98½	99½
Ford 8½ 1984	99½	99¾
British Columbia MFA 9 1997	100	100¾
Rank 9½ 1982	100¾	101¾
Walter Heller 9½ 1984	100¾	101¾
DEUTSCHE MARKS		
CFP 6½ 1.7.84	98½	99¾
ICI 6¾ 1.5.87	103¾	104½
New Zealand 6½ 1.5.84	103½	104
Phyrn 6½ 1.9.89	100	100¾
Quebec Hydro 6½ 16.8.87	99¾	100¾
US $ CONVERTIBLES		
American Express 4½ 1987	80½	81½
Beatrice Foods 4½ 1992	95	97
Beatrice Foods 6¾ 1991	113	115
Beecham 6¾ 1993	96½	97½
Borden 6¾ 1991	113	114
Carnation 4 1988	80	82
Chevron 5 1988	122	124
Eastman Kodak 4½ 1988	86½	88½
Fairchild Camera 5½ 1991	83½	85½
Ford 5 1988	84½	86½
Ford 6 1986	96	98
General Electric 4½ 1987	82½	84½
Gillette 4¾ 1987	76	78
Gould 5 1987	121½	123½
Gul & Western 5 1988	78½	80½
Honeywell 6 1986	88½	90½
ICI 6¾ 1997	87	89
INA 6 1997	96½	96¾
Inchcape 6¾ 1993	98½	99½
ITT 4½ 1987	81	83
J. Ray McDermott 4¾ 1987	144	146
Mitsui Real Estate 6 1992	108½	109½
J. P. Morgan 4½ 1987	96	98
Nabisco 5½ 1988	101	103
J. C. Penney 4½ 1987	79½	81½
Revlon 4¾ 1987	115½	117½
Reynolds Metals 5 1988	84	86
Sperry Rand 4½ 1988	86	88
Squibb 4½ 1987	78½	80½
Sumitomo Electric 6 1993	102½	103½
Texaco 4½ 1988	80½	82½
Union Bank of Switz 4½ 1987	118	120½
Warner Lambert 4½ 1987	82	84
Xerox Corp 5 1988	78½	80½

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

Recent Issues

	Closing Price
Bath (City of) 11½% 1985 (£98½a)	£9¾+¼
Brit Land 15% 1st Db 1987 (£100)	£103½
Do 12% Cnv Ln 2002 (£900)	£108+1
BP BLA's (845p)	540+15
Exchequer 10½% 1997 (£96)	£91-¼
Grampian Reg Cncl 10¾% 1985 (£99a)	£7¾-¼
Holden (Arthur) 25p Ord (53)	60+1
Islington 12¾% 1983-84 (£99½d)	£52¼-¼
Do 12¾% 1986-87 (£99d)	£53¼-¼
St Helens 11½% 1985 (£99½a)	£9¾-¼
Sth Crofty 10p Ord (50p)	70
Southwark 11¾% Rd 1984-85 (£99½d)	£48¾-¼
Treasury 10% 1992 (£96½)	£89¾-¼

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Barratt Dev (83)	Jan 1	23 prem
Com Union (130)	Jan 2	3½ prem-½
Coral Leisure (200)	Dec 23	243f
De La Rue (520)	Jan 13	536f
E Mid A Press (50)	Jan 6	8 prem
Record Ridgway (70)	—	15 prem-1
Utd Scientific (165)	Jan 18	76 prem+1
W Ribbons (50)	Jan 13	35 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £10 paid. b £30 paid. c £15 paid. d £50 paid. e £25 paid. f Fully paid. g £3 paid. h £56 paid. i £45 paid.

Malaysians may resume buying sugar from Cuba

Kuala Lumpur, Nov 29.—Malaysia would consider resuming sugar imports from Cuba if current negotiations to revise its long term sugar agreement with Australia become difficult, Datuk Seri Hamzah Abu Samah, the trade minister, said.

He said that Cuba was willing to sell to Malaysia and "if reasonable terms are offered, we will consider buying from them." The Philippines was also prepared to offer sugar on reasonable terms to Malaysia.

Malaysia stopped buying sugar from Cuba after signing an agreement with Australia in 1974

Wall Street

New York, Nov 29.—The Dow Jones industrial average, which fell 4.85 pts on Monday, was off 4.07 pts to 835.50 shortly before 11 am on the New York Stock Exchange today.

Declines led advances 635 to 318, among the 1,480 issues crossing the tape.

Investors apparently still were disturbed by the Government's report on Monday of a record $3.100m Oct trade deficit.

Gold gains up to $1.30

New York, Nov 28.—**GOLD** futures closed up to $1.30 higher in active trading. NY COMEX: Dec, $160.80; Jan, $161.90; Feb, $163.00; April, $165.20; June, $167.40; Aug, $169.60; Oct, $171.80; Dec, $174.10; Feb, $176.40; April, $178.70; June, $181.00; Aug, $183.30. CHICAGO IMM: Dec, $160.60-160.50; March, $163.70-163.90; June, $167.20-167.30; Sept, $170.40-170.60; Dec, $174.10; March, $178.50.

SILVER futures finished 2.20 to 2.40 cents net lower after an advance of some 3.00 cents faded out on small profit-taking. Dec, 472.20c; Jan, 475.30c; March, 481.60c; May, 487.90c; July, 494.20c; Sept, 500.50c; Dec, 509.80c; Jan, 513.00c; March, 519.30c; May, 525.60c; July, 531.90c; Sept, 538.30c. Handy and Harman of Canada, $5.301 ($5.253).

COPPER closed steady: Dec, 55.60c; Jan, 56.10c; March, 57.10c; May, 58.10c; July, 59.10c; Sept, 60.10c; Dec, 61.40c; Jan, 61.90c; March, 62.80c; May, 63.70c; July, 64.60c; Sept, 65.60c.

SUGAR futures were uneventful on small local ring and trade interest.—Jan, 8.40-50c; March, 9.05-06c; May, 9.52-53c; July, 9.82-83c; Sept, 9.97-99c; Oct, 10.07-08c; Jan, 10.20-0.50c; March, 10.64c.

COCOA futures rallied on late local short-covering to finish 3.90 cents to 1.00 cent down.—Dec, 173.50c; March, 148.90c; May, 139.30c; July, 134.90c; Sept, 132.00c; Dec, 128.00c; March, 125.00c.

COFFEE futures closed a quiet session mixed.—Dec, 210.00-4.00c; March, 164.75c; May, 155.50c; July, 145.00-8.50c; Sept, 141.00-2.75c; Dec, 126.00-8.00c; March, 126.00-8.00c.

COTTON futures closed 0.10 to 0.22 cent net lower on scattered speculative selling in a thin market.—Dec, 51.10c; March, 51.60c; May, 52.45-50c; July, 53.25-26c; Oct, 54.15-25c; Dec, 54.75-90c; March, 55.50-85c; May, 55.50-6.50c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS: Soyabean prices tumbled on the Chicago Board of Trade today, bringing down grain prices as well. **SOYABEANS**: Jan, 592½-91c; March, 601-600c; May, 606½-7½c; July, 613-13½c; Aug, 613c; Sept, 599½c; Nov, 592½-93; Jan, 598c. **SOYABEAN OIL**: Dec, 22.10-15c; Jan, 21.65-70c; March, 21.45-50c; May, 21.25-30c; July, 21.13c; Aug, 20.95c; Sept, 20.30-35c; Oct, 19.80-90c; Dec, 19.75-85c. **SOYABEAN MEAL**: Dec, $156.50-1.00; Jan, $157.50-6.00; March, $161.50-1.00; May, $162.50-3.00; July, $166.00-5.50; Aug, $168.00-7.00; Sept, $165.00-4.00; Oct, $163.00-3.30; Dec, $164.50-5.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS: A late wave of selling pushed wheat futures to close at the day's lows, down 7½ cents to six cents. **WHEAT**: Dec, 267½c; March, 278½c; May, 283-82½c; July, 286c; Sept, 291½c; Dec, 298c. **MAIZE**: Dec, 222½-½c; March, 229½-30c; May, 232½-33c; July, 233½-½c; Sept, 229½-½c; Dec, 229½-½c. Oats: Dec, 134½-34c; March, 138c; May, 139½c; July, 139½c; Sept, 139c nominal.

	Nov 28	Nov 25		Nov 28	Nov 25		Nov 28	Nov 25
Allied Chem	44⅞	44⅞	Fst Penn Corp	17¼	17⅜	Republic Steel	23⅜	23⅝
Allied Stores	23½	23¾	Ford	43⅞	44⅜	Reynolds Ind	63⅞	64⅜
Allied Supermkt	2⅝	2½	GAF Corp	11	10¾	Reynolds Metal	30¼	30¼
Allis Chalmers	28⅞	28½	Gamble Skogmo	24	23⅝	Rockwell Int	29¼	29¼
Alcoa	43⅞	44	Gen Dynamics	49½	50⅝	Royal Dutch	56⅞	57
Amax Inc	36¼	36¼	Gen Electric	50⅜	51½	Safeways	42⅞	42½
Amerada Hess	30⅞	31⅛	Gen Foods	33½	33¾	St Regis Paper	32⅞	33½
Am Airlines	10⅝	10⅝	Gen Mills	31⅝	31⅝	Santa Fe Ind	37	37½
Am Brands	43⅜	43½	Gen Motors	65⅞	66	SCM	20⅝	20½
Am Broadcast	42⅜	43⅛	Gen Pub Util NY	21½	21¼	Schlumberger	73⅞	74
Am Can	38⅞	39	Gen Tel Elec	31½	31⅞	Scott Paper	14⅞	14⅞
Am Cyanamid	26⅜	26⅞	Gen Tire	23⅞	23⅞	Seaboard Coast	31	31⅛e
Am Elec Power	24½	24½	Genesco	4⅞	4⅞	Seagram	21⅞	21½
[illegible]			[illegible]			[illegible]		
Equitable Life	27⅞	26⅞	Polaroid	26⅞	26⅞	Mass.-Fergsn	16⅞	16⅞
Esmark	30	30⅞	PPG Ind	28⅞	28⅞	Royal Trust	16	16
Evans P. D.	17⅞	17	Proctor Gamble	86	85⅞	Seagram	23⅞	24
Exxon Corp	47⅞	47⅞	Pub Ser El & Gas	23⅞	23⅞	Steel Co	24½	24½
Fed Dept Stores	41⅞	41⅞	Pullman	29½	29⅞	Talcorp	8½	8½
Firestone	18⅞	18⅞	Rapid American	5⅞	5⅞	Thomson N 'A'	12½	12½
Fst Chicago	19⅞	19⅞	Raytheon	34	35	Walker Hiram	29⅞	29
Fst Nat Boston	26	25⅞	RCA Corp	28½	28⅞	WCT	33	32⅞

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex-distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 1.8171 (1.8190); three months, 1.8165 (1.8182); Canadian dollar 90.13 (90.01).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was off 4.32 at 331.59. The futures index was off 3.03 at 323.34.

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 839.57 (844.42); transportation 217.52 (219.76); utilities, 113.00 (113.06); 65 stocks, 289.79 (291.45).

New York Stock Exchange index, 55.02 (55.35); industries 56.93 (57.32); transportation, 40.34 (40.74); utilities, 40.81 (40.84); financial, 55.66 (55.94).

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	7.5%
Barclays Bank	6%
Consolidated Crdts	6%
First London Secs	7.5%
C. Hoare & Co	*6%
Lloyds Bank	7%
London Mercantile	6%
Midland Bank	6¾%
Nat Westminster	7.5%
Rossminster Acc's	7.5%
Shenley Trust	8%
TSB	6%
Williams and Glyn's	6%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 3½%, up to £25,000, 3¾%, over £25,000, 4%.

1976-'77 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
44	27	Airsprung Ord	42	—	4.2	10.1	7.8
150	100	Airsprung 18½% CULS	150	—	18.4	12.3	—
39	25	Armitage & Rhodes	37	—	3.3	8.9	15.7
142	105	Bardon Hill	141	—	12.0	8.5	9.7
102	48	Deborah Ord	102	—	5.1	5.0	8.2
216	104	Deborah 17½% CULS	216	—	17.5	8.1	—
147	120	Frederick Parker	147	—	11.5	7.8	7.1
118	45	Henry Sykes	106	—	2.4	2.0	10.1
58	36	Jackson Group	50	—	5.0	10.0	5.8
114	55	James Burrough	103xd	−1	6.0	5.8	9.4
340	188	Robert Jenkins	330	—	27.0	8.2	5.6
24	8	Twinlock Ord	14	—	—	—	—
77	57	Twinlock 12% ULS	72	—	12.0	16.6	—
65	51	Unilock Holdings	65	—	7.0	10.8	8.1
86	65	Walter Alexander	86	—	6.4	7.4	6.3

Foreign Exchange

The dollar strengthened against all major currencies yesterday after dropping on Monday on the record trade deficit reported for October. But sterling lost more than most, finishing 42 points down on the day at $1.8148. The effective exchange rate was unchanged at 63.3.

The Japanese yen fell from 240.25 to 243.40 against the dollar, and dragged Continental currencies down with it. German marks dipped from 2.2140 to 2.2220.

Gold lost $1.75 an ounce to close in London at $159.875.

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) November 29	Market rates (close) November 29
New York	$1.8130-8195	$1.8145-8153
Montreal	$2.0105-0195	$2.0155-0195
Amsterdam	4.35-38fl	[illegible]
Brussels	63.30-73f	63.50-60f
Copenhagen	[illegible]	[illegible]
Frankfurt	4.02-03m	4.03-04m
Lisbon	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madrid	149.30-55p	149.60-70p
Milan	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oslo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	[illegible]	441-43y
Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	[illegible]	3.91-92f

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971 was unchanged at 63.3.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	[illegible]	[illegible]
Montreal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Amsterdam	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	5c prem-5c disc	5c prem-5c disc
Copenhagen	[illegible]	[illegible]
Frankfurt	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madrid	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milan	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oslo	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	[illegible]	[illegible]

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar), $0.9017-20.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, [illegible]; seven days, [illegible]; one month, [illegible]; three months, [illegible]; six months, [illegible].

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $159.95 (an ounce); pm, $159.[illegible].

Krugerrand (per coin): non-resident, [illegible]; resident, [illegible].

Sovereigns (new): non-resident, $48-50 [illegible]; resident, $48-50 [illegible].

Discount market

Things did not go quite the way that had seemed likely in the conditions were quiet throughout. Instead of having to deal with a slight surplus that had appeared to be on the cards during the morning, the authorities found themselves called upon to relieve a shortage. This they did by small-scale purchases of Treasury bills directly from the houses.

Rates had been called 6-5¾ per cent initially, but they came away to around 5½ per cent by lunch-time as houses made quite good progress towards their targets for the day. The market went dry in the afternoon, but most houses were not needing to find much more, and rates closed in the range of 5¼ to 5½ per cent after the Bank of England's help.

Underlying factors on the minus side included a fairly large outflow of notes into spending circulation under seasonal influence.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 7%
(Last changed 25/11/77)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 6-7½%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 5¾ Low 5¼
Week Fixed: 5¾-5¾

Treasury Bills (Dis %) [illegible]

Prime Bank Bills (Dis %) / Trades (Dis %) [illegible]

Local Authority Bonds [illegible]

Secondary Mkt. CD Rates (%) [illegible]

Local Authority Market (%) [illegible]

Interbank Market (%) [illegible]

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate %) [illegible]

Finance House Base Rate 6½%

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts fall back

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov. 28. Dealings End, Dec 9. § Contango Day, Dec 12. Settlement Day, Dec 20

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1976/77 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
BRITISH FUNDS								
101	95½	Treas	9%	1978	100		8.945	6.766
104	93	Treas	10%	1978	102		10.281	6.874
100	89	Exch	5%	1976-78	98		5.069	6.725
107	92	Treas	11½%	1979	103		11.140	8.747
97	85	Treas	3%	1979	94		3.174	6.294
98	92	Elec	4%	1974-79	95		4.463	7.071
106	88	Treas	10%	1979	102		10.267	9.180
97½	82	Elec	3½%	1976-79	94½		3.701	6.941
106	84½	Treas Cnv	9%	1980	100		9.003	9.005
105	84½	Treas	9½%	1980	100		9.477	9.387
96	79	Treas	3½%	1977-80	93½		3.739	6.315
98	79½	Fund	5½%	1978-80	94		5.544	7.565
112	96	Exch	13%	1980	108		12.038	9.835
108	98	Treas	11½%	1981	103½		11.076	9.996
94½	76	Treas	3½%	1979-81	89½		3.913	7.229
104	83½	Treas	9½%	1981	99		9.834	10.055
110	97	Exch	9¾%	1981	98		9.690	10.116
93	90	Exch	3%	1981	89		3.359	6.298
113	96	Exch	12%	1981	109		11.740	10.080
104	79	Treas	8½%	1980-82	95½		8.937	9.850
93	89	Treas	3%	1982	88		3.486	6.946
119	98	Treas	14%	1982	112		12.420	10.256
99	93	Treas	8¾%	1982	93		8.615	10.029
103	93	Exch	8¾%	1982	97		9.511	9.979
87	81	Exch	3%	1983	81		3.731	7.609
113	98	Treas	12%	1983	108½		11.206	10.249
101	94	Treas	9½%	1983	97½		9.629	10.205
95	69	Fund	5½%	1982-84	90½		6.292	8.146
99	74	Treas	8½%	1984-86	96½		9.135	9.806
87	60	Fund	6½%	1985-87	93		7.893	9.340
92	63	Treas	7½%	1985-88	90½		9.039	10.004
73½	44½	Trans	3%	1978-88	62		4.764	8.333
73	48	Treas	5%	1986-89	68½		7.257	9.408

COMPANY NOTICES

COMPANHIA DE DIAMANTES DE ANGOLA

Portuguese and foreign shareholders of the Companhia de Diamantes de Angola whose shares have been the object of nationalization, are called to a Meeting to be held at 5 p.m. on 16th December, 1977, at the Associacao Comercial de Lisbon, Rua das Portas de Santo Antao 89, Lisbon, TO CONSIDER the situation resulting from the Nationalization under Decree-Law 61/77 from the Government of the Peoples Republic of Angola and TO APPOINT a Committee to defend shareholders' interests and to represent them in the negotiations to be established with the Government of the Peoples of Angola.

Shareholders will prove themselves as such, independent on the number of their shares, either through the records existing in the Lisbon Delegation of the Company or by producing the document proving the deposit of shares in banking institutions under Decrees No. 70-A/76 and 112/76 of the 22nd July 1976 and 25th August, 1976 respectively.

For shareholders who attended the Meeting held 27th June, 1977, no document is required.

The identity of Portuguese shareholders will be proved by producing their passports.

Any shareholder can make himself represented in the Meeting by another shareholder by means of a simple letter addressed to the Signatory of the present Convocation, Rua Ivens No. 6, 2nd Floor, Lisbon 2, until 14th December or by producing it to the Chairman at the Meeting.

J. MARQUES MARTINHO.
Shareholder.

TRANSFER BOOKS

FRENCH KIER HOLDINGS Limited
Notice is hereby given to the holders of the 7½% Unsecured Loan Stock 2004/09 that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 12th to 28th December, 1977, inclusive.
By Order of the Board
JOHN E. GROVE.
Registrar.

FRENCH KIER HOLDINGS Limited
Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Share TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 12th to 28th December 1977, both dates inclusive.
By Order of the Board.
JOHN E. GROVE.
Registrar.

DIVIDEND NOTICES

Rolinco

ROLINCO NV Rotterdam announce for the year ending 31 August 1977 a 5% stock distribution from the Share Premium Reserve which is free of Netherlands Withholding Tax and United Kingdom Income Tax. Holdings represented by Bearer Share Warrants cannot be aggregated with holdings of Registered Sub-shares.

EXCHANGE CONTROL POSITION

The Bank of England have given a general permission for Authorised Depositaries to deal with the distribution, on behalf of beneficial owners who are resident in the Scheduled Territories [illegible]

INCOME TAX POSITION

[illegible]

BEARER SHARE WARRANTS WITH COUPONS ATTACHED

[illegible]

Payable as from 8 December 1977

[illegible]

SUB-SHARE CERTIFICATES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK (NOMINEES) LIMITED

[illegible]

WARRANTS (Constituted by 20 Dividend Coupons No 19)

[illegible]

30 November 1977

TRANSFER BOOKS

THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATERWORKS COMPANY
Notice is hereby given that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 16th December, 1977, to 29th December, 1977, both days inclusive, against Transfers of Debenture and Preference Stocks, but not against Transfers of Ordinary Stock.
A. W. TIBBENHAM,
Secretary.
Birmingham.
24th November, 1977.

DRAWING OF BONDS

NORGES KOMMUNALBANK
U.S.$10,000,000 5¾% 30 Year External Loan of 1964

HAMBROS BANK LIMITED hereby give notice that in accordance with the terms of the above Loan, the Redemption for the 15th January 1978 has been effected by the purchase of U.S.$344,000 Nominal Bonds and the undermentioned Bonds amounting to U.S.$314,000 Nominal were drawn on the 15th November 1977 for redemption at par.

The Drawn Bonds may be presented to Hambros Bank Limited, 41 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2, or to the other Paying Agents named on the Bonds.

Bonds surrendered for redemption should have attached all unmatured coupons appurtenant thereto. Coupons due 15th January 1978 should be detached and collected in the usual manner.

For payment in London, Bonds must be lodged through an Authorised Depositary. Bonds will be received on any business day and must be left three clear days for examination.

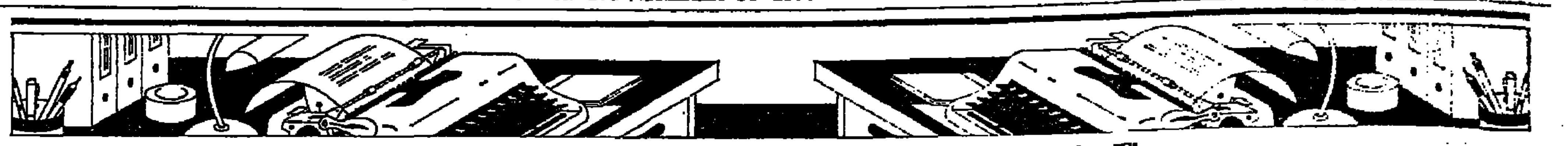
BONDS OF $1,000

25	44	86	111	151	350
364	431	474	531	636	550
575	610	690	803	850	857
869	957	967	970	1055	1064
1077	1037	1099	1112	1126	1305
1308	1331	1372	1409	1383	1415
1505	1734	1760	1879	1894	2005
2021	2045	2054	2039	2108	2225
2250	2261	2285	2427	2466	2500
2533	2540	2596	2618	2650	2661
2715	2716	2740	2890	2894	2969
3015	3033	3047	3048	3052	3122
3199	3201	3244	3267	3286	3293
3300	3317	3323	3343	3346	3383
3414	3450	3474	3484	3489	3504
3558	3609	3655	3709	3716	3862
3874	3878	3905	3919	3952	3964
3967	3975	3996	4000	4024	4032
4043	4046	4071	4083	4093	4096
4131	4178	4181	4208	4210	4235
4291	4295	4296	4306	4308	4332
4335	4345	4345	4484	4490	4522
4624	4652	4585	4627	4645	4652
4666	4678	4693	4702	4707	4735
4730	4752	4775	4846	4864	4906
5042	5044	5046	5049	5051	5199
5244	5350	5368	5270	5382	5397
5430	5451	5589	5661	5685	5687
5756	5773	5774	5776	5802	5869
5888	5945	5946	5980	6040	6066
6165	6172	6200	6212	6280	6507
6349	6378	6417	6450	6448	6477
6478	6567	6570	6577	6605	6642
6650	6674	6711	6726	6748	6754
6839	6842	6853	6871	6872	6900
6916	6929	6996	7075	7087	7136
7149	7160	7171	7197	7215	7231
7247	7248	7250	7266	7285	7302
7316	7804	7873	7931	7949	7990
7991	8069	8079	8097	8106	8115
8148	8159	8161	8175	8242	8249
8267	8289	8291	8380	8415	8416
8446	8447	8450	8465	8482	8498
8504	8573	8574	8581	8605	8750
8784	8815	8923	8926	8938	8945
8946	8949	8969	8976	8983	8990
9069	9109	9159	9188	9202	9305
9208	9214	9227	9263	9328	9341
9367	9493	9500	9508	9552	9577
9588	9609	9612	9656	9671	9676
9681	9685	9685	9706	9776	9777
9801	9832	9842	9875	9891	9892
9902	9931				

Bonds purchased	U.S.$344,000
Bonds drawn	U.S.$314,000
	U.S.$658,000

30th November 1977.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS



—Stepping Stones—Non-Secretarial—Secretarial & General—Tempting Times—

La Crème De La Crème

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

PER Executive Secretaries — Top Jobs for Top People

N.W.10 — £3,750

The Managing Director of a national company in the engineering industry needs a really capable person to provide a full secretarial service. Good shorthand and typing and education to "O" levels or the equivalent in English and Arithmetic are required, plus some understanding of commercial statistics used in business administration and at least 3 years experience at senior level. In return the post offers variety, responsibility and involvement within the company. 4 weeks' holiday. Own office, subsidised dining room and the staff benefits of a national company.
Contact: Miss Angela Moriarty. 01-235 9984

Park Lane — £3,750

An excellent opportunity for a career orientated secretary who wishes to join a large, nationwide company and become PA to a senior executive at their head office. Shorthand, typing and audio must be of a high standard and the candidate, who will probably be 30+, will have the confidence to enjoy dealing with clients and remain unflappable in a busy atmosphere. Own office. 4 weeks' holiday, season ticket loan, discounts on company products.
Contact: Mrs Jo Armit. 01-235 9984

Berkeley Square — £3,500-£4,000

If you are a well-qualified secretary, probably aged 28-35, who enjoys working in a very pleasant environment among charming people, this post will be of interest to you. A very senior and dynamic Sales Executive seeks such a person to assist with his busy schedule. A prestige post with excellent prospects.
Contact: Miss Jane Barnsley 01-235 9984

Tower Hill — £4,000

A prestige post. The Managing Director of a large Insurance Group requires a top-flight Secretary/PA. Age 27-35 the candidate must be smart and well spoken and able to assist with both his professional and personal work-load. Own office. Mortgage scheme. 25p LV.
Contact: Mrs Dawn Shaerf. 01-235 9984

Late night opening 6.45 pm every Thursday. Telephone Mrs Dorothy Allison (Manager) on 01-235 9984 for an appointment at 4-5 Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park Corner, SW1

Applications are welcome from both men and women.

TWO GOOD OPPORTUNITIES IN INTERIOR DECORATING

The General Trading Company is looking for two mature and intelligent people to work in their Interior Decorating and Fabrics Department early in the New Year.

One person aged between 25 and 40 is required to be deputy head, and assist in buying, and running the department, and at the same time have the qualifications and the considerable experience necessary to carry out Interior Design projects to a high standard.

The second position is for a similarly qualified person aged between 23 and 35 with several years' practical experience of doing Interior Design projects and selling fabrics and soft furnishings.

A good salary, incentive commission and agreeable surroundings.

Please write giving your age, qualifications and present earnings to:

David Part,
THE GENERAL TRADING COMPANY,
144 Sloane Street, London S.W.1.

MANSFIELD/CACHE D'OR

The Sales Director of this major fashion Company requires a Super Assistant. If you are fashion conscious and have the following qualifications he would like to meet you.

1. Excellent secretarial skills and administrative ability.
2. Knowledge of the fashion industry.
3. Enthusiastic approach to selling and a flair for business and dealing with people.

For further details contact:

Mr. R. B. Hancock,
Sales Director,
Mansfield Originals Ltd,
23-31 Great Titchfield Street,
London, W.1.
Telephone (01) 580 1951.

SECRETARY

AMERICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

TIME-LIFE INTERNATIONAL LTD. require a secretary for their Circulation Manager. Interesting job for which good shorthand and typing speeds, secretarial experience and some aptitude for figures are required.

Good salary, staff benefits and working conditions. Staff cafeteria. Preferred starting date, January 1st, 1978.

Please telephone Ruth Dicksee at 01-499 4080 for interview.

THE PROOF OF THE PUDDING IS IN THE EATING . . .

1. MUSIC COMPANY.
Well-groomed Secretary for M.D. with good sh/typing, ability to deal with problems. £4,000.

2. P.R. COMPANY.
Young, experienced Secretary with good skills for Acct. Executive with P.R. or similar background. £3,[illegible]

3. OIL COMPANY.
Promotional position in Personnel for good Secretary, ability to deal with people and work under pressure. £3,700

Ring Pam Holland,
SENIOR STAFF SELECTION,
77 New Bond St., W.1.
01-493 3321

SECRETARY/P.A.

Competent and over 30. Own office, Mayfair. Prestigious company working with Chairman. Confidential, interesting and varied work. Financial and Industrial companies, therefore experience in commercial companies essential. Please write to

The Chairman
BESPOKE SECURITIES LTD
61 GROSVENOR ST.
MAYFAIR
LONDON W1X 9DA

SECRETARY/PA

£4,000 p.a.

M.D. of Reinsurance Brokers (EC4) requires experienced Secretary. Good shorthand/typing. Bonus plus L.V.s and 4 weeks' holidays.
Phone 626 9800, ext. 247, for interview on 8th December, 1977.

P.A. TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE

c. £4,000

with a growing company in high quality Glassware. Luxury office and showroom suite and all new office sides. Chancery Lane area. Applicants must be able to provide a sophisticated secretarial, exhibitions and reception service. Apply to Jennifer Parsons, Barnett Keel Ltd., Providence House, River Street, Windsor, Berks SL4 1QT. Tel. Windsor 56725.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE (University of London)

DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARY

required for Physiology Department. Good typing and shorthand essential. Own office with IBM Golfball Typewriter. Salary according to qualifications and experience on scale £[illegible] including London Allowance.
Further details available from School Secretary & Hunter Street, London WC1N 1BP (Tel. [illegible]), to whom application should be made as soon as possible.

SECRETARIES HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR HOLIDAYS?

The opportunity exists for discounts of up to 75% on holidays and travel working as P.A. Secretary to Director of International Freight and Travel Agency. £3,500 to start.
RING 637 0781
A.T.A. SELECTION

Employment Manager

Remploy Limited, the government-sponsored company which provides employment for severely disabled people in 87 factories, invites applications for the above position, based at its head office in Cricklewood. The successful candidate, male or female, will primarily be responsible for the recruitment of all weekly and annually rated staff on the head office payroll—approximately 1,000. He, or she, will also be responsible for giving advice on recruitment procedures throughout the company.

Applicants must have substantial experience of staff selection and the ability to produce job/man specifications for a wide variety of posts.

A sound background of general personnel work in a large organization will be looked for, together with a sound working knowledge of current Employment Legislation. Membership of the IPM is highly desirable. A commencing salary of £5,500 per annum is envisaged. Benefits include 23 days' annual leave, contributory pension scheme and free life assurance.

Please send concise details, giving age, experience, qualifications and present salary, in confidence, to:

Personnel Director, Remploy Limited, Remploy House, 415 Edgware Road, Cricklewood, London NW2 6LR.

Remploy

Pathfinders offer the following positions available now:

Top-level

P.A./SECRETARY FOR PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR £4,200

This high-powered overworked man needs the assistance of an equally high-powered P.A. who can accept limitless responsibility and become actively involved in his work, which is centred on promotions for unusually interesting clients. You'll need to be made of strong stuff to cope with constant pressure and endless problems.

P.A./SECRETARY £4,000

This Interior Design Company need a smart, sophisticated P.A. to look after their top man. They're looking for someone who can handle artistic, temperamental people and remain calm at all times. Some experience in a related field such as Advertising, P.R. or Design itself would be helpful.

PATHFINDERS 629 3132

We offer a personalised selective service to All Office Personnel for Advertising, P.R., Films, Music and TV
Call us on 629 3132 and we'll do our best to help you

PATHFINDERS
32 MADDOX STREET, W.1 (1 min. Oxford Circus Tube)

Audio Secretary With POSITIVE PERSONALITY for a job with variety

c £3,500

We are looking for a charming young secretary with a funny temperament to tackle a variety of tasks ranging from dealings with the Stock Exchange to paying parking fines.

Our luxurious offices are situated in the West End and we offer excellent benefits including 4 weeks holiday, BUPA, LV's, season ticket loans and paid overtime (when necessary).

Please contact:
Janice Rowe
Tel: 01-486 7100

SECRETARY

FOR MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Required from 16th of January, aged 22-35. Duties include: attendance at meetings of Council, the Executive Committee and the 3-day Scientific Meeting in York; work involved with the Association's membership and the accounts; assisting the Executive Secretary. The post offers varied experience and an insight into many aspects of child health; it demands initiative and organising ability, previous medical knowledge not essential.

6 weeks holidays. Salary range £3,354-£5,261 (inclusive of London Weighting).
Applications giving details of experience and the names of two referees by 9th of December to
THE HONORARY SECRETARY,
PROFESSOR JUNE K. LLOYD,
BRITISH PAEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION,
23 QUEEN SQUARE, LONDON, WC1N 3AZ.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GARDENING AND GOOD AT SELLING?

The General Trading Company, London's Most Fascinating Shop, is looking for a mature and intelligent person to work full-time in its recently enlarged Garden Shop which sells Cane Furniture, other garden accessories, books, tools and plants, etc. Monday to Friday and alternate Saturday mornings.

Please write giving your age, qualifications and present earnings to:

DAVID PART,
THE GENERAL TRADING COMPANY,
144 SLOANE STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

SHIP AHOY!

Marketing Director of well known shipping line requires Secretary who is a "bright button" capable of organising and attending buffet luncheons and conferences. Good experience and shorthand typing. Age 22-26. Salary up to £3,900.

Telephone Mrs. Byzantine, 01-222 5091
NORMA SKEMP
Personnel Services Ltd.
14 Broadway, S.W.1

SECRETARY/P.A.

to senior partner of a well-known estate agents. Charming boss, a fulfilling job with involvement and responsibility. £3,700 p.a. Further details phone:
BARBARA FAIRLIGHT
493 1211
ALFRED MARKS
STAFF BUREAU

BOOKKEEPER DESIGN CO. S.W.1 — £4,000

Exclusive Design Co. with lively informal atmosphere need bright young (25+) m./f. who wants to mix business accounts to trial balance—with pleasure. Contact:
Accountancy Personnel Agy.,
53 Victoria St., S.W.1.
222 0483.

PA to TONY BUZAN (Author/Businessman)

My lucky successor will work from beautiful Hampstead Garden Suburb office.
Please phone Helga,
01-455 8266 soonest

TRAINEE LEGAL SECRETARIES

SHORTHAND OR AUDIO £3,500+

Plus an increase after 3 months! Earn while you learn and train for rapid promotion in this dynamic City practice. Excellent perks.
01-353 6931
STAFFSCENE LEGAL.

LEGAL EXECUTIVE/SEC. £3,800

Excellent opportunity for first class legal secretary to expand his/her skills and become an executive sec. to young Senior Partner of busy W.1 practice. Own room, flexi hours and generous benefits.
For interview please call
CAVENDISH PERSONNEL
Recruitment Consultants
637 7697

£4,000

Secretary with some legal experience required for Partner of prestigeous firm of W.C.2 solicitors. Interesting and involving work.
JAYGAR CAREERS
(Recruitment Consultants)
730 5148

Secretary/PA in Dubai

A leading firm of City Solicitors is opening a Middle Eastern Area Office in Dubai, an Established Cosmopolitan City on the Gulf and in the United Arab Emirates. They therefore need a mature well qualified Secretary/Personal Assistant.

In addition to the usual secretarial skills (fast accurate shorthand and typing), the successful applicant will be required to organise the running of the office, deal with telephone inquiries, arrange appointments and meetings, deal with travel arrangements and liase with the London Office. Previous legal experience would be an advantage but is by no means essential

The appointment will initially be for one year with the possibility of renewal. Free furnished accommodation will be provided in Dubai. There will be a six week holiday entitlement and air fares will be paid for one return trip to the United Kingdom.

The Salary will be in local currency at the rate equivalent to £6,500 P.A. Tax free.

It is hoped that the appointee will be available to leave for Dubai early in the New Year.

Please telephone Janet Day
On 01-248 5030
for further details.

What Procon does for SECRETARIES is pure petrochemistry

PROCON is one of the big names in the design and construction of oil refineries and chemical plant around the world.
Our Project Director supervises million pound programmes, so his secretary must be prepared to be fully involved in his job.

It's challenging It's varied It's satisfying

You should have good experience and speeds and be able to handle responsibility confidently and decisively.
And we need a Project Secretary with the same attributes to work with a team on an interesting long term assignment.
We offer first class salaries, LVs, electric typewriters, a friendly working environment and other big benefits including an early finish on Fridays.

We are opposite Mornington Crescent Station, just a few minutes from Euston Station and on several main bus routes. Please ring

ANN BENSON at
PROCON (GREAT BRITAIN) LTD., on 01-387 9411

VACANCY FOR C 3/2

EUROPEAN CONSERVATIVE GROUP EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

A British Nationality Secretary (with good educational background) required by the European Conservative Group in the European Parliament. Resident in Luxembourg, but also required to work in group's offices in Brussels. In addition to competence in the normal secretarial duties she must have a high standard of shorthand and typing in English and a good knowledge of one of the other Community languages (preferably French). Generous salary and holidays.

The post is Grade C 3/2—Community scales of emoluments.

Apply in writing, sending c.v. to:
THE SECRETARY GENERAL,
EUROPEAN CONSERVATIVE GROUP,
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT,
P.O. BOX 1601, LUXEMBOURG.

Interior Designer

requires well qualified, competent and enthusiastic Secretary/PA to run small office and become an important member of his team. The preparation of clients' estimates and accounts, and the ordering and chasing of delivery dates of fabrics and furniture are important aspects of the job.

Salary negotiable.

Please telephone 01-351 3435 or write, giving career details, to: John Stefanidis, 100 Cheyne Walk, London SW10.

SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTS

Secretary required by International Architects, Queen Anne's Street, W.1. Competence and versatility essential including familiarity with switchboard and telex machine. Salary negotiable according to age and experience.

Tel. 01-637 1865

LA PERLE RARE!

ENGLISH/FRENCH

Unique opportunity for a completely bilingual Executive Secretary to assist Chairman. If you are familiar with and enjoy the top echelons of City life and are free to work hard, long and efficiently (sometimes abroad) in a very dynamic environment, you will find this a stimulating and satisfying post. Salary will be at least £5,000, with the surroundings and fringe benefits that may be expected at this level.

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES
Recruitment Consultants
22 Charing Cross Road, W.C.2.
01-836 3794/5

NOT ALL THE GOOD JOBS ARE IN THE WEST END

Why travel to Town when there is this fascinating job in Barnet. Executive level Sec/P.A. required in small friendly office. Never a dull moment. Sense of humour essential. Internationally known company.

Please phone or write to:
Colin Lewis,
Les Must de Cartier,
Summit House,
Moon Lane,
Barnet, Herts.
01-440 9444

Director of West End P.R. firm requires Secretary/P.A.

With personality and sense of humour, plus ability to get fully involved and assume responsibility for day to day projects. If you have secretarial experience, are aged between 20-30 and would like to work as an important part of a small team, in the first instance.

Phone Sue Young on
01-734 0484

SELF STARTER WITH SECRETARIAL SKILLS

£3,600 plus

An interesting new post with small team in Covent Garden producing current affairs journal. Involves plenty of admin, a bit of elementary bookkeeping and help with the publication.

Please ring
01-240 5289

CAN YOU COPE WITH THREE MEN?

Secretary with shorthand for small international company with beautiful offices near Marble Arch. Own office. Confidential, interesting and varied work. Top salary for the right applicant. Please call 723 2482.

Playboy Enterprises, Inc.

Executive Secretary

The President and Managing Director of Playboy Clubs International, requires a Secretary.

Applicants must have superlative secretarial skills plus initiative and resilience, and an ability to organise the work-load efficiently.

If you are aged between 25 and 35, intelligent and good tempered, and feel that the above job specification relates to you, please apply.

This position carries a commencing salary of £4,000 (with regular cost of living increases), three weeks' paid holiday, a non-contributory pension scheme, free lunches, and a secure career in a successful company.

Write to the Personnel Manager
PLAYBOY CLUB OF LONDON LTD.
45 Park Lane, London, W.1
or telephone 629 6666, ext. 55

Try AMERICA

Six months or longer
Air fare paid
Visa sponsorship
Free health insurance
Accommodation arranged

BI-LINGUAL SECRETARIES
RING: 01-437 6858

FIRST GIRL

Write: FIRST GIRL 33 Sackville Street London W1

FITCH & COMPANY Design Consultants

P.A. to Chairman

I am leaving my charming, very creative, but temperamental boss at Christmas time to go overseas, so if you are trendy, attractive, diplomatic and good with creative people and have at least 4 years experience at this level, I would like to hear from you.
Salary around £4,000

Please call Joanie Squires on
01-580 3060

London Paris, Dubai & Doha

SECRETARY/PA

We are seeking an experienced Secretary, aged 32-40, with above average shorthand and typing skills and good administration background to work for Managing Director of Property Consultancy. Ability to participate in team work and deal with people at all levels is most important. In return we offer career prospects, excellent salary (negotiable) with many additional benefits, including free lunch, and luxurious offices close to British Museum.

Please telephone 637 4577

Receptionist/Telephonist

International Company of Management Consultants with modern offices in Mayfair require an experienced person to run hectic, but happy, reception area. Duties will include operation of automatic switchboard and other varied activities.

We are looking for a real professional for this position and are prepared to negotiate a realistic salary. The usual fringe benefits are also offered.

For further details please telephone:
JOAN FRASER, 01-493 6801.

"GOING UP IN SMOKE AT £4,300 + BONUS"

Marketing Manager of International tobacco group based West End needs a smart, well groomed PA/Sec with speeds of 100/60. You must be prepared to work on your own initiative, do research and help market the product. Good perks.

CALL
CHRISTINE WATSON
NEW HORIZONS
584 4223.

TWO IN THE ARTS WORLD

Managing Director of organisation in the Holland Park area which promotes, organises and manages International Arts events, needs two good P.A. Secretaries. One for himself and one for an executive. Both secretaries will need 1st class skills, efficiency and common sense coupled with the grooming and confidence to meet and be involved with celebrities and VIPs at all levels. Salaries a.a.e. and good. If the thought of a demanding and exciting job appeals to you, call quickly—before they are snapped up!

adventure
629 5747
63 South Molton St., W.1

Leading West End Advertising Agency needs RECEPTIONIST

To work in luxurious surroundings from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., alongside our part-time receptionist.
You should be over 25, attractive, chic and charming, with a good measure of common sense, previous experience of reception and ideally travel bookings.
We are offering a good salary, generous dress and hair allowances and annual bonus along with other excellent staff benefits.
Applicants should apply to Stephanie Maxwell, on 01-935 4426

Departmental Secretary

required, from middle of February, 1978, for Department of Histopathology, as Personal Secretary to the Professor and to work closely with other academic staff and students. The post is a senior one and carries considerable responsibility.
Applicants should be competent shorthand-typists with experience of working on their own initiative.
Salary according to qualifications and experience, on scale rising to £3,525, including London Weighting, with superannuation and allowances up to £279 for special skills.
Applications, with curriculum vitae, should be sent to the Secretary, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London Bridge, SE1 9RT, quoting Ref. H.P.1.

'78—THE YEAR YOU SPEND IN GERMANY

If you're a first-class Secretary with a good command of the English language and fluent in German, start 1978 out in Germany with Siemens.

We'll fly you out in January, when you'll begin working for one of our Managers in Munich or Karlsruhe. Because we're the world's largest electrical and electronics organisation we put a lot of emphasis on efficiency and it's important you have good shorthand and typing speeds. But for the enthusiasm you put into your job you'll receive plenty in return, such as a salary of around 34,000 DM (£6,000) a year, a living allowance and many other benefits to make your time in Germany run smoothly.

For an interview in this country, telephone or write to:

Ray Parker, Recruitment Officer
SIEMENS LIMITED.
Siemens House, Windmill Road,
Sunbury-on-Thames.
Telephone: Sunbury 85691.

CENTACOM — SENIOR ASSISTANT

For Property Department of Fashion Company, W.1. Administrative Secretarial duties, writing own correspondence, audio typing and telephone inquiries. Some shorthand a definite advantage. This position offers variety and scope for an intelligent 19-25 year old. Salary £3,700, shopping discount, Christmas bonus, 5 weeks' holiday and exceptional working conditions.

CENTACOM STAFF
Recruitment Consultants
937 6525 Kensington
836 2875 Strand
734 2664 Regent St.

Secretary P.A.

INTERNATIONAL CO.

Experienced confidential Secretary with lots of ability, for Chairman of International Co. with super offices in W.1. Must be flexible, have excellent skills, a sound knowledge of export documentation and be able to handle telex. A wide variety of work is involved and for the person who can cope the salary is really excellent. If you've got what it takes

ring 01-486 8551

Secretary/PA

required to assist HEAD OF DEPARTMENT in busy West End Estate Agents.

Apart from the usual secretarial skills you must be able to cope with people and situations.

Salary from £3,500

Please contact
DIANA PENHALLOW
723 3494

Fashion Fabrics

We are a small but very busy sales office near Oxford Circus wanting to engage an efficient and energetic P.A./Sec. able to organise us, and to liaise with clients. We are offering £4,000 p.a.

Please telephone between 5.30-6.30 p.m.
580 4589

Secretary/PA

required for Joint Managing Directors:
West End offices
9.30-5.30
£3,800-£4,000

Telephone:
Caroline Lakin
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£4,000—HI-FLYER

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Christmas Gift Guide

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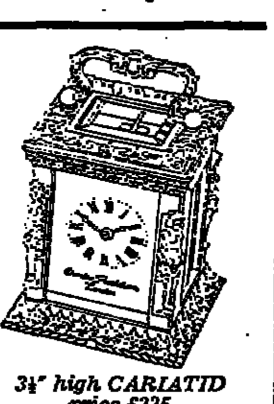

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THE TIMES CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE COMPETITION.

The hand that wields the pen writes a gripping word. Or so last year's letter writing competition made us believe. So this year we would like to test your powers of persuasion even more by asking you to draft an official epistle.

So, at the same time as solving your present problems, write a letter and win yourself one of these fabulous prizes.

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Christmas Gift Guide Competition Number 7

Clue: It's a road to a new song.
Answer:
Clue: A drink at this bar could cost you a lot.
Answer:
Clue: Triple word score ?
Answer:

Now put yourself in Santa's snow boots. Your sleigh is so laden and time so short that you're not likely to consider traffic wardens every time you pull Rudolph to a stop. Imagine your reaction when you are summonsed for parking in a restricted zone.

Then write a 100 word letter to the Clerk of the Magistrates. You are going to plead mitigating circumstances. After all The Times Christmas Gift Guide has made so much extra work this year you can't be expected to notice every yellow line. And remember, a touch of joviality will probably soften the judicial heart.

Then send us your letter, remembering to enclose your full name and address, and indicating which prize you would like to receive should you win.

Three entrants must win every day the Guide is published. Closing date for today's competition, 3 days after today's date. Post this entry to: THE TIMES CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE COMPETITION, No. 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT.

The names and addresses of the winners will be published in The Times. The decision of the judges is final. All entries will be judged on their literary merits.

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For Everyone

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Salary within scale £6,443-£7,951 (under review). The commencing salary is likely to be in the lower half of the scale. Postcard requests for application forms and further details to Paul Johnson, Establishment Officer, ref: 77/43AD.
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Applications, including a curriculum vitae, stating the particular fields of interest, and the names and addresses of three referees should be sent by the 30 December 1977 to the appropriate Head of Department, Oxford Polytechnic, Oxford, OX3 0BP, from whom further details and application forms may be obtained.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Oxford University

POSTGRADUATE STUDENTSHIP IN ENGLISH

Applications are invited for the Violet Vaughan Morgan Commonwealth Studentship in English which is open to graduates (men or women) who are citizens of any country (other than the United Kingdom) which is a member of the Commonwealth, or a British colony or territory.

There is no age limit. [illegible]

Further particulars from the Secretary of Faculties, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford [illegible] applications should be returned by 1 March 1978.

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The University of Manchester

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University of London King's College

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to the Faculty of Engineering from men or women graduates, preferably with some industrial experience. The post is tenable as soon as possible, and will be on a two days per week basis, and subject to workload may be for term time only (approximately 30 weeks per year). Candidates should have an interest in the planning and coordination of the activities of a medium scale academic unit. Ability to communicate easily with staff and students, and to establish external relations with schools, government organizations and industry is also required. The successful candidate will be paid, pro-rata, at an appropriate point on the Academic Related IB Scale, currently £3,927-£4,811 p.a., plus £450 London allowance, but under review.

Application forms and details of the post are available from the Secretary (Ref. 177498/T), University of London, King's College, Strand WC2R 2LS, and should be returned as soon as possible.

University of Cambridge
FACULTY OF HISTORY

The Appointments Committee of the Faculty of History intend to appoint from 1 October, 1978 a University Assistant Lecturer, in one of the following fields: Medieval European History, 300-1050; Medieval European History, 1250-1500. A willingness also to teach medieval political thought may be an advantage. The appointment will be for three years, with the possibility of re-appointment for two years. Scale of stipends: £3,517 a year, rising by four annual increments to £4,463, subject to certain deductions for college emoluments. Applications (eleven copies) with names of not more than three referees, to reach the Secretary of the Appointments Committee, History Faculty, West Road, Cambridge CB3 9EF, by 6 January, 1978.

The University of Manchester
REGISTRAR'S DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for the post of

ADMINISTRATIVE/ GRADUATE ASSISTANT

Candidates should be graduates with a first or upper second Honours degree or a higher degree and should preferably have some experience of administration. Salary range [illegible] (Administrative Assistant) or £2,904-£3,119 (Graduate Assistant). Level of appointment [illegible]

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Hambro Fellowship

The Governing Body of Clare Hall, a graduate College of the University of Cambridge, invite applications from Norwegian citizens for election to this Fellowship, which has been established through the generosity of Hambros Bank. The Fellowship will be tenable from 1 October 1978 for a period of up to one academical year and is open without restriction as to subject, age, or sex to Norwegians who wish to pursue advanced study or research in Cambridge, normally at post-doctoral level, although there is no formal requirement of a university degree. The stipend for the Fellowship will normally be in the range of £2,600 to £3,250 for a full academical year, plus commons. The actual stipend paid will take account of the candidate's standing and other resources. Applications, including a curriculum vitae, a brief account of the study or research proposed, and the names of not more than three referees, should be sent to: THE SECRETARY, CLARE HALL, HERSCHEL ROAD, CAMBRIDGE CB3 9AL, FROM WHOM FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED, SO AS TO ARRIVE NOT LATER THAN 21 DECEMBER 1977.
The referees should be requested to send references to the Secretary, Clare Hall.

KENT COLLEGE CANTERBURY

Ten scholarships worth up to £532 each will be awarded in 1978. The Entrance Examination for 11-year-old boys and girls will be held in February. Prospectus and full particulars from the Headmaster.

Kent College is now fully co-educational. The new girls' boarding house opens in September.

There are also vacancies at Vernon Holme, the junior school for Kent College, for boys and girls aged 8-10. Apply to the Headmaster, Vernon Holme, Harbledown, Canterbury.

Uppingham School

SIXTH FORM SCHOLARSHIP

A competitive Examination for a Scholarship worth up to two-thirds of the fees (which can be increased in case of need to full remission of fees) to be awarded to a boy or girl due to enter the Sixth Form in September, 1978, will be held at Uppingham on 14th-15th ...

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL HORSHAM

A place will be available in September 1978, for a boy, born between 1st September 1965 and 30th November 1967, whose father (or mother) is, or was, a Freeman of the City of London. Family income must not exceed £5,000 per annum gross (after adjustment for certain commitments) where there is one dependent child. *£700 p.a. is allowed for each additional dependent child.*

Application forms and further ...

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The Queen's College, Oxford

RANDALL MAC-IVER STUDENTSHIP IN ARCHAEOLOGY

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(continued on page 32)

Broadcasting

9.35 pm BBC 1	Last of the Summer Wine continues to be irresistible. Tonight we see the effect of music on daisies—and Ivy.
9.50 pm BBC 2	*Meanwhile on the other BBC channel* the Eustace and Hilda trilogy gets underway with all the intensity that is L. P. Hartley. Tonight it is the horrifying brother-sister relationship of the Shrimp and the Anemone.
11.35 pm ITV	And later, *one of the truly glamorous* television occasions: the British Film Awards, with something for everyone . . . well almost.—I.R.R.

BBC 1

12.45 pm, News. 1.00, Pebble Mill. 1.45-2.00, *The Flumps.* 3.15, Volunteers. 3.55, Play School. 4.20, Secret Squirrel. 4.25, Jackanory. 4.40, The Pink Panther. 5.00, John Craven. 5.10, King Cinder. 5.35, Ivor the Engine.
5.40 News. 5.55, Nationwide.
6.55 *The Superstars.*
8.05 Secret Army.
9.00 Conservative *Party* political broadcast.
9.10 News.
9.35 Last of the Summer Wine.
10.05 Sportsnight: Amateur Boxing. *England* v Romania.
10.55 Tonight including election results live from South Africa.
11.35-11.37, Weather.

Regional variations (BBC 1): BBC WALES.—5.10-5.35 pm, Bilidowcar. 5.55-6.20, Wales Today. 6.55, Heddiw. 7.15, Trem. 7.40-8.05, Tomorrow's World. SCOTLAND.—5.55-6.30 pm, Reporting Scotland. *9.00-9.10, Scottish Conservative Party political broadcast.* 10.15-10.55, Sportscene, including Scottish League Cup Semi-final highlights. NORTHERN IRELAND.—3.53-3.55 pm, Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20, Scene Around Six. 9.35-10.05, Spotlight.

BBC 2

10.20 am, Gharbar. 10.45, Parosi. 11.00-11.25, Play School.
7.00 News Headlines.
7.05 Play Golf.
7.30 Newsday.
8.05 The *Master* Game: Chess, Larsen v Donner, expert analysis.
8.35 My Music: Contest of Musical Knowledge.
9.00 As BBC 1.
9.10 Hospital.
9.50 *Eustace and Hilda,* by L. P. Hartley, with Flora Robson: Part 1.
10.55 Arena: *Cinema, London* Film Festival.
11.25 News.
11.35-11.40, Gabriel Woolf reads The Visitor, by *Brendan Kennelly.*
BBC 2 SCOTLAND.—9.0-9.10 pm, Scottish Conservative Party political broadcast.

Thames

12.00, Mumfie. 12.10 pm, Rainbow (r). 12.30, Sounds of Britain. 1.00, News. 1.20, Help! 1.30, Crown Court. 2.00, After Noon. 2.25, Family. 3.20, Heart to Heart. 3.50, The Sullivans. 4.20, Runaround. 4.45, *Midnight is a Place.* 5.15, Emmerdale Farm.
5.45 News. 6.00, Thames at 6.
6.35 Crossroads.
7.00 This is Your Life.
7.30 Coronation Street.
8.00 Wednesday at Eight, with Tom O'Connor, Sacha Distel.
9.00 The South African Experience, documentary.
10.00 Conservative Party political *broadcast.*
10.10 News.
10.40 Mid-week Match.
11.35 Evening News British Film Awards.
12.25 am, Epilogue.
(r) repeat.

ATV

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, *Upstairs, Downstairs.* 3.20, Thames. 5.15, Mr and Mrs. 5.45, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35-12.30 am, Thames.

Southern

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Crown Court. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.25, Thames. 5.15, Captain Nemo. 5.20, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Day by Day. 7.00, Thames. *12.30 am, Southern News.* 12.35, Weather. Epilogue.

HTV

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, West Headlines. 1.25, Wales Headlines. 1.30, Southern. 2.25, Dan August. 3.20, Thames. 5.15, Dodo. 5.20, Southern. 6.00, Report West. 6.15, Report Wales. 6.30, Survival. 7.00-12.25 am, Thames. HTV CYMRU/WALES.—As HTV except: 1.20-1.25 pm, Penawdau Newyddion y Dydd. 4.20, Miri Mawr. 4.30-4.45, Un Tro. 6.00-6.15, Y Dydd. HTV WEST.—As HTV except: 1.20-1.30 pm, Report West. 6.15-6.30, *Report West.*

Granada

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This Is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Tandarra. 3.20, Thames. 5.10, *This Is Your Right.* 5.15, Crossroads. 5.45, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.30, Happy Days. 7.00-12.35 am, Thames.

Scottish

12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, *Southern.* 2.25, The Practice. 2.55, David Niven's World. 3.20, Thames. 5.15, Southern. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, Report. 7.00, Thames. 8.00, Moira's Scottish Song Book. 9.00, Thames. 10.45, Documentary: Strangers on the Shore. 11.15, Love, American Style. 11.40, Thames. 12.30 pm, Late Call.

Ulster

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Lunchtime. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Mr and Mrs. 2.55, Friends of Man. 3.20, Thames. 5.15, The Lost Islands. 5.45, News. 6.00, Ulster Television News. 6.05, Crossroads. 6.30, Reports. 7.00-12.25 am, Thames.

Grampian

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, The Invaders. 3.20, Thames. 6.00, Grampian *Today.* 6.35, Thames. 10.40, Police Woman. 11.35, Thames. 12.30 am, Reflection.

Tyne Tees

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, North East News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.25, Canada—Five Portraits. 3.20, Thames. 5.15, Happy Days. 5.45, News. 6.00, Northern Life. 6.35, Thames. 12.30 am, Epilogue.

Anglia

12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Anglia News. 1.30, Southern. 2.25, Tandarra. 3.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, About Anglia. 6.35, Thames. 12.30 am, The Big Question.

Westward

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, ATV. 3.20, Thames. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.35, Thames. 12.30 pm, Faith for Life.

Border

12.00, Thames. *1.20 pm, Border* News. 1.30, Southern. 2.25, Tandarra. 3.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Border News. 6.35, Thames. 12.30 am, Border News.

Yorkshire

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35-12.30 am, Thames.

Channel

1.18 pm, Channel News. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, ATV. 3.20, Thames. 6.00, Channel News. 6.10, Guernsey Report. 6.15, Dimanche. 6.30, Thames. 10.00, Reflection. 10.10, Thames. 12.30 am, Epilogue.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News. Colin Berry.† 7.02, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Simon Bates. *11.31, Paul Burnett.* 2.00 pm, Tony Blackburn. 4.31, DLT. 7.02, The Law Game. 7.30, Band.† 8.02, Radio Orchestra.† 9.02, Semprini.† 10.02, *John Peel.*† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† Stereo.

2

6.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Terry Wogan.† (8.27, Racing bulletin.) 9.02, Ray Moore.† (10.30, Waggoners' Walk.) 11.30, Jimmy Young.† 1.50 pm, Sports Desk. 2.02, David Hamilton.† 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, John Dunn.† 6.45, Sport. 7.02, Radio 1. 10.07, Sing Something Simple. 10.30, Don MacLean. 11.02, Tim Gudgin. 12.00-12.05 am, News.

3

6.55 am, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.05, Your Midweek Choice, 1: Music for St Andrew's Day.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Your Midweek Choice: Mozart, Tchaikovsky.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Orlando Gibbons.† 9.45, Chamber Organs: Byrd, Jan of Lublin, Pachelbel, Bach.† 10.35, Ariadne on Naxos: Massenet, Maconchy.† 11.05, Concert from Dewsbury, part 1: Elgar, Beethoven.† 11.55, In Short. 11.00, Concert, part 2: Tchaikovsky.† 1.00 pm, News. 1.05, Blow, Hadyn, Schubert, Schumann, Sumner.† 2.00, Orchestral Music of Stanford.† 3.10, Scottish dance and dance music. 3.55, Shostakovich Symphony No 10.† 4.55, Building a Library.† 5.45, Homeward Bound.† 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound. 6.30, Kontakte. 7.00, Allez France! 7.30, The Faerie Queene.† 8.00, Concert, part 1: Beethoven.† 8.35, The Arts Worldwide. 8.55, Concert, part 2: Bruckner.† 10.10, Scientifically Speaking. 10.55, Music by Ligeti.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4

6.15 am, News. 6.17, Farming. 6.35, Up to the Hour. 7.00, News. 7.10, Today. 7.35, Up to the Hour. 8.00, News. 8.10, Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, The Living World. *9.35*, Parents and Children. 10.00, News. 10.05, In Britain Now. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, If You Think You've Got Problems. 11.50, Enthusiasm. 12.00, News. 12.02 am, You and Yours. 12.27, Doctor Finlay's Casebook. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen With Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Juno. 3.50, Choral Evensong from Edinburgh Cathedral. 4.35, Story: *The Tale of Beatrix Potter.* 5.00, PM Reports. 5.40, Serendipity. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.30, My Word! 7.00, News. 7.05, The Archers. *7.20, File on 4.* 8.00, Gerald C. Potter. 8.30, The Press Barons: Victor Matthews. 9.00, Science Now. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.30, Round Europe Quiz. 11.00, A Book at Bedtime: The Treasure of the Sierra Madre. 11.15, The Financial World Tonight. 11.30, Today in Parliament. 11.45, News. 12.03-12.06 am, Inshore Forecast.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 31

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING STARTS HERE

To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel:

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APPOINTMENTS
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PROPERTY ESTATE AGENTS
01-278 9231
PERSONAL TRADE
01-278 9351
MANCHESTER OFFICE
061-834 1234

Queries in connexion with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel:
Clasified Queries Dept.
01-837 1234, Extn. 7180

Box No. replies should be addressed to:
The Times,
P.O. Box 7
New Printing House Square
Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ

Deadlines for cancellations and alterations to copy (except for proofed advertisements) is 13.00 hrs. prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancelations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to The Classified Queries department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

". . . So (Christ) came and proclaimed the good news: peace to you who were far off, and peace to those who were near by."—Ephesians 2: 17 (N.E.B.).

BIRTHS

BAILISS.—On 26th November, at Kingston-upon-Thames Hospital, to Margaret (née Solby) and [illegible]

MARRIAGES

DEATHS

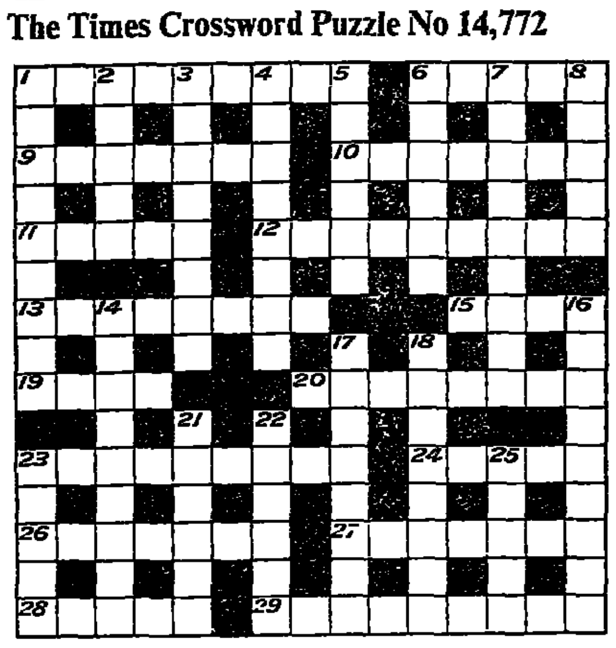
IN MEMORIAM

CRAVEN.—In loving and constant memory of Janet Craven, died 30th November, 1951. She enriched life.

HURLE-HOBBS, BASIL.—Remembering with love always your birthday.—Goz.

TEMPLE.—Remembering John R. Temple, who entered into the joy of his Lord, St. Andrew's Day, 1943.

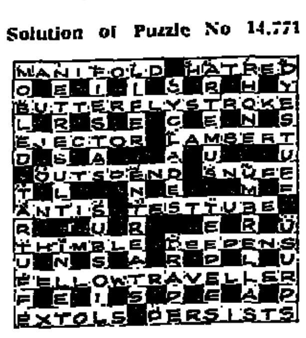
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,772



ACROSS
1 Seen at Windsor? Caxton of course (9).
6 Bird gives many a rook-imitation (5).
9 What's cooking? Sort it out, love (7).
10 One of Amelia's sartorial mistakes (7).
11 Lease runs out. Support for the board (5).
12 Defeat of darts player—goes to the wall (9).
13 Accommodation for news items (8).
15 Long timber (4).
19 Individual feature of some sea charts (4).
20 Such a view enjoyed from a peak in Darien? (5-3).
23 As varied as the career of those on board (9).
24 Topping cake? On the contrary (5).
26 Excel in open-work (7).
27 "Then —— the action of the tiger" (Hen V) (7).
28 Literary characteristics of an old writer (5).
29 Directions make it easier to educate (9).

DOWN
1 Topless Club's queer version of Cabaret? (9).
2 It's refreshing, making the green out of the sand (5).
3 Maim—silent about tail being mangled (8).
4 Ornamentation doesn't sound laboured (8).
5 Duffer lyrically enjoined to run (6).
6 Raised point of repair to dome (6).
7 It provides uplift for viewers of Venice (9).
8 Merit of a poet lost for words (5).
14 Chief opponent of a fly-over? (4-5).
16 Growing evidence for non-stop motoring (9).
17 Theatre giant of imagination (8).
18 Counselling unhappy diva to give voice (8).
21 Stir caused by old feminine fashion (6).
22 Flew, say, from Paris (6).
23 Cuts associated with Eton and Harrow? (5).
25 Not suitable to drop off in it (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,771



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